

East

SPRING 2015

A passion for the world
The graying of rural medicine
Two under par

THE MAGAZINE OF EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY®



Primed to practice

The inaugural School
of Dental Medicine
graduating class



RETRIEVER RELAXATION

Scout, a golden retriever, stands beside student Adam Pierce at Joyner Library during fall semester finals. The library teamed with Pet Partners to present three pet therapy sessions, which brought animals into the library to interact with students. Library officials said research shows interactions with dogs and cats help students unwind from the stresses of final exams.

Photo by Cliff Hollis



STEM STUDIES

T’san Griffin, a seventh-grader at Riverside Middle School in Williamston, is participating in an after-school, STEM-based program where students study drug addiction using tapeworms in a partnership with ECU. The students placed tapeworms in solutions of caffeine and sugar to measure how addictive the common ingredients are and behavior patterns from use. Rhea Miles, an associate professor in the ECU College of Education, and Scott Rawls, an ECU alumnus and associate professor at Temple University, were awarded a four-year, \$1 million grant to engage K-12 teachers and students with health care professionals, pharmacists and scientists in the study.

Photo by Cliff Hollis

East

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On the cover: Graduating dental students, from left, Diana Luckhardt, Lara Holland, Kyle Duncan, Alex Crisp and Kyle Given pose in a patient-care area in Ross Hall.
Photo by Jay Clark

Beyond residency to roots

When he was lobbying for a medical school at East Carolina, Leo Jenkins often said that no North Carolinians should be denied adequate health care just because of where they live.

Nearly 50 years later, East Carolina saw that thousands of rural residents did not have access to dental care simply because of where they lived. North Carolina ranked 47th nationally in the number of dentists per capita, and four counties in the Northeast had no dentists at all.

ECU leaders committed themselves to addressing this problem and, with the support of the UNC Board of Governors, asked the General Assembly in 2006 for money to build and operate a dental school. Even though the Great Recession would cripple state finances, during a three-year period legislators came up with a total of about \$90 million to establish the ECU School of Dental Medicine.

In May, the first class of dental students graduates, and ECU will celebrate another milestone in its long history of service to the state.

It's expected that most of these 50 new dentists will remain in North Carolina to practice. Because of the unique educational model ECU pioneered, it's also expected that many will choose to practice in underserved areas of the state.

In our cover story in this issue, which begins on page 20, Dr. Maggie Wilson, associate dean for student affairs at the dental school, explains why that's true.

"We only admit North Carolina residents, but we look beyond residency status to roots," Wilson tells writer Kathryn Kennedy. "We want to see ties to the state. We want somebody who has a commitment to helping people, to putting others' needs first; somebody who values service above self."

We invite you to learn more about how ECU trains dentists and to share this proud moment with us.

Steve Tuttle

SPRING 2015
VOLUME 13, NUMBER 3
East is produced three times a year by East Carolina University.

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Printed by RR Donnelley

C.S. 15-842 29,000 copies of this public document were printed at a cost of \$14,506 or \$.50 each.

FOUNDER'S WORDS
NEED SHARING



Thanks for that great story about (ECU founder) Thomas Jarvis. His words need to be shared with the 2015 slate of legislators in the General Assembly.

—T. Jerry Williams, Raleigh

LIKED MAX JOYNER STORY

Kudos for the outstanding article on Max Ray Joyner. He is the consummate gentleman and a wonderful person. I first met Max Ray and Kitty a number of years ago at a Chancellors' Society function, and from that day forward knew I had met a man with great character, wisdom and selflessness. My wife and I will always be grateful for his contributions to ECU.

—Margaret '70 and Buddy '71 Daniel, Lynchburg, Va.

PETRA 'AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE'

My husband, Glenn Johnston '73, just received the Winter 2015 magazine. We were so excited to see the article on Petra, Jordan. We just returned from a 12-day trip to Israel and Jordan. We spent a half-day at the Siq in Petra—an unforgettable experience! We will look forward to reading more about this project and especially any type of exhibit that may be sponsored by ECU.

—Tricia Johnston, Grimesland

MAKE A NOTE OF YOUR NEWS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Complete this form (please print or type) and mail to: **Class Notes Editor, Howard House, Mail Stop 107, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353.** Please use additional paper as necessary when sending your news. You also can email your news to ecuclassnotes@ecu.edu. While East happily prints wedding announcements, it is our policy not to print engagement

announcements. Also, when listing fellow alumni in your news, please include their class year.

Please send address changes or corrections to: **Kay Murphy, Office of University Development, Greenville Center, Mail Stop 301, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353, or email: murphyk@ecu.edu.**

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ECU sends East magazine to friends and donors. To begin receiving the magazine, mail your check using the postage-paid reply envelope inside. How much is up to you but we suggest a \$25 minimum contribution.

The ECU Foundation supports many scholarships. Learn how to help a student struggling with finances at the foundation's website, www.ecu.edu/ecuf.

Where is your money most needed? The colleges, schools and programs within ECU have defined their funding priorities and posted them here: www.ecu.edu/ecuf/funding-priorities.cfm.

Another way to support ECU is to join the East Carolina Alumni Association and receive the magazine as well as other benefits and services. Minimum dues are \$35. Visit www.piratealumni.com to learn how to remain connected.

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Chancellor Steve Ballard talks with Allen Scott, an ECU graduate who now works at Spinrite, a yarn manufacturer in Washington.

New study shows economic value of ECU to the state and region

ECU generates billions of dollars for North Carolina and achieves significant regional transformation, according to the first-ever statewide analysis of higher education's impact on the economy.

The study revealed that payroll and operations expenses at ECU—together with construction funding and spending by students, visitors and alumni—created a \$2.8 billion impact for the state, equivalent to 42,798 jobs, during fiscal year 2012-13.

Leaders from ECU and local community colleges convened at an event on ECU's campus March 24 to spotlight findings from the study, which was

commissioned by the University of North Carolina system, the N.C. Community College System and the 36 campuses of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities in the state.

ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard said the findings demonstrate that ECU is following through on its commitment to the region. Eastern North Carolina alone saw a \$1.8 billion impact from the university during the same fiscal year, based on the study.

"We are very happy with this report, which provides further evidence that we are successful in our mission of regional transformation and economic prosperity for eastern North

Carolina," said Ballard.

The study also describes the return on investment to students, society and taxpayers. For every dollar society spent on education at ECU during the analysis year, North Carolina communities will receive a \$10.40 value for as long as the 2012-13 students remain active in the state workforce. Students and taxpayers see a 12.6 and 12.3 percent return on investment, respectively.

Shared goals among neighboring institutions were another major theme for leaders at the event.

"The theme of regional economic development will only strengthen at ECU as we engage in new

programs like the Center of Excellence for Pharmaceutical Manufacturing and other private-public partnerships," said ECU Provost Ron Mitchelson. "The size of our impact is well reflected in these numbers, and they help to validate our ongoing commitment to the region and to North Carolina."

Locally, a \$1.3 billion impact was observed in the eight-county proximity zone around ECU, which comprises Edgecombe, Wilson, Martin, Pitt, Beaufort, Greene, Lenoir and Craven counties.

Included in this zone with additional economic influence are Lenoir Community College, Martin Community College, Craven Community College, N.C. Wesleyan College, The University of Mount Olive, Barton College, Edgecombe Community College, Pitt Community College and Beaufort County Community College.

"Our area institutions are leaders in the state for offering students different pathways to education," said John Chaffee, president of the NC East Alliance. "Moving students from high school to the community colleges to the university—ECU is a key part of that—offering more online programs than any other institution in the UNC system—and it really helps us leverage talent regionally."

Allen Scott of Trent Woods spoke at the event about his experiences with higher education in the region. His story demonstrates how partnerships and education resources can impact individual lives and the workforce. He received an associate's degree from Craven C.C. in 1985 then returned there in 2011 to prepare for an economic transition. After one semester, he transferred to ECU's bachelor of science in industrial technology program and graduated in 2013. He is now a quality manager for Spinrite in Washington.

"ECU played a huge role in preparing me for the workforce," said Scott. "Thanks to the ECU degree, I'm much more viable in the workplace and certainly less vulnerable to layoffs. I'll always be grateful for this educational opportunity to improve my circumstances."

Alumni such as Scott have made a substantial mark on the state. The study concludes the accumulated contribution of ECU alumni employed in North Carolina amounted to \$2 billion in added income to the state economy, equivalent to creating 31,460 new jobs.

Approximately 78 percent of graduate and undergraduate students at ECU come to Greenville from outside the eight-county proximity zone. Their spending on things such as groceries, transportation and rent added about \$141.4 million in income to the zone's economy.

Conducted by Economic Modeling Specialists International, the analysis was funded by the North Carolina Business Higher Ed Foundation, the NC Community Colleges Foundation, the UNC system (from non-state funds) and the 36 campuses of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.

The full text of the UNC-system report, along with statewide analysis, is online at northcarolina.edu/economic-impact-2015.

—Kelly Setzer

ECU named "Best Bang for the Buck" in the Southeast

ECU has been named the No. 1 "Best Bang for the Buck" among colleges and universities in the Southeast in a new report that ranks universities on outcomes and the degree of opportunity afforded students.

A *Washington Monthly* book, *The Other College Guide: A Road Map to the Right School for You*, gives ECU the top ranking in the Southeast region. It also ranks ECU 41st among all colleges and universities nationally and 20th among universities that offer all levels of degrees. In addition, ECU ranked 14th nationally in a 2014 social mobility category, designed to measure the extent a university's graduates earn more and obtain a better quality of life.

"Student success is the first commitment of our mission, so we are always pleased when rating systems measure the difference we make for our students and the return on their investment," said Chancellor Steve Ballard.

The book is an outgrowth of college rankings that have been published annually by *Washington Monthly* since 2005. Those rankings take into consideration a school's dedication to the public good in three broad categories: social mobility, research and service.

The guide's rankings are different from others, its authors say, because it focuses on outcomes such as graduation rates, student loan default rates and the ability of graduates to land a good-paying job.

ECU leaders say those measures of effectiveness align well with the university's mission, which focuses on student success,

regional transformation and public service.

The focus of the *Washington Monthly* report is similar to other systems that specifically measure the value added to the college experience, Ballard said, such as the *Collegiate Learning Assessment* and the *Educate to Careers* report.

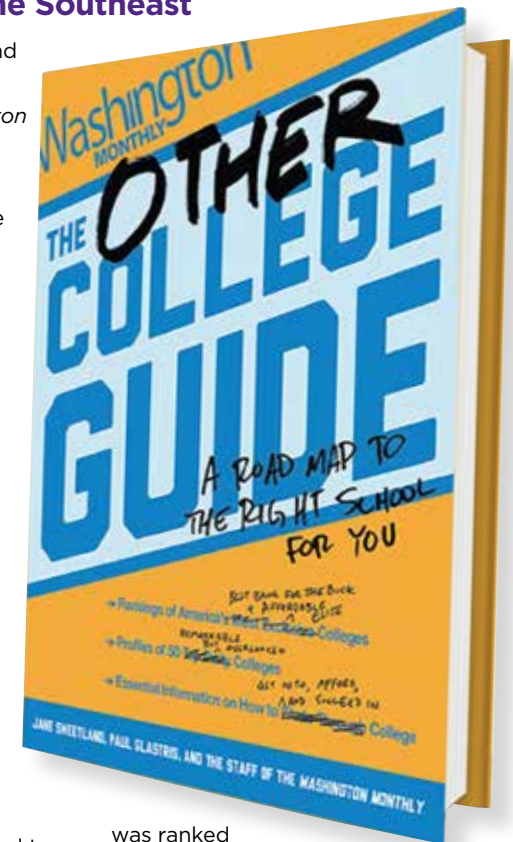
"We believe the *Washington Monthly* ranking gives an accurate picture of how students benefit from an East Carolina education," Ballard said.

The report included in its ranking criteria the percentage of students receiving Pell grants, the cost of tuition after reductions for low family income, the percentage of applicants admitted, and ACT and SAT scores.

To be considered for the "Best Bang" list, schools had to combine better-than-expected graduation rates with an affordable price. Ranked schools had to have a student body with at least 20 percent receiving Pell Grants; have a graduation rate of at least 50 percent; and have a loan default rate among graduates of 10 percent or less.

Of all 1,540 colleges and universities in the U.S., the book considered only 386 worthy of inclusion in its "Best Bang" list.

UNC-system campuses account for 10 of the top 20 "Best Bang for the Buck" schools in the Southeast. N.C. State University



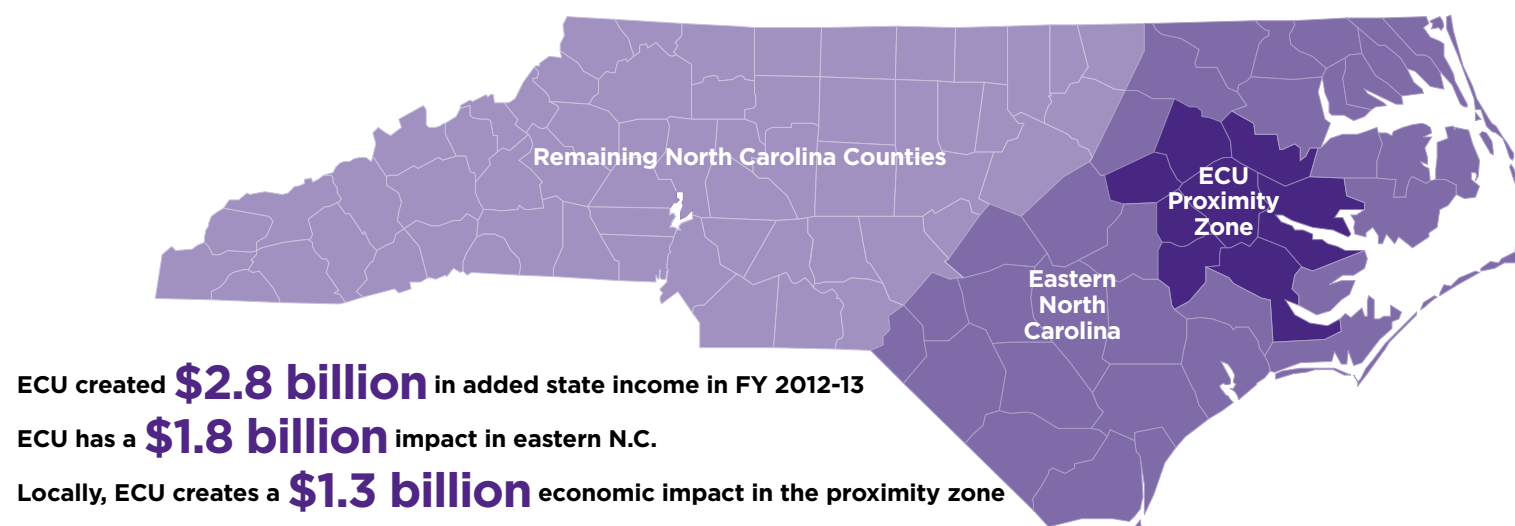
was ranked second, UNC Pembroke was seventh, UNC Greensboro was eighth, Appalachian State was ninth, UNC Charlotte was 10th, Elizabeth City State was 17th, Fayetteville State was 18th and N.C. Central was 19th.

Written by Jane Sweetland, a former dean at California State University-Chanel Islands, and Paul Glastris, the editor of *Washington Monthly*, the guide is aimed at affordability and outcomes in higher education. It was published by a nonprofit, The New Press, with support from the Kresge Foundation.

—Steve Tuttle



Forrest Croce



ECU created **\$2.8 billion** in added state income in FY 2012-13

ECU has a **\$1.8 billion** impact in eastern N.C.

Locally, ECU creates a **\$1.3 billion** economic impact in the proximity zone



Mansi Trivedi presents at the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies and Programs.

Craig Souza, chair, Education Planning Committee

UNC Board of Governors meets on ECU campus

It was a purple-and-gold welcome for the University of North Carolina Board of Governors when it met on ECU’s campus in April for the first time since 2007.

The governing body of the UNC system was treated to a campus tour, featuring destinations such as the School of Dental Medicine at Ross Hall and a walk-through of the Jenkins Fine Arts Center.

In his comments during the full board meeting, Vice Chairman W. Louis Bissette Jr. of Asheville thanked Chancellor Steve Ballard and the entire campus community for the warm welcome.

“I think this is the friendliest part of the state, the most welcoming. You have a great university, and we look forward to seeing what you’ll do in the future, not only

here but for the whole eastern region,” he said.

Bissette mentioned his family ties to nearby Nash County and how he spent several summers working on his uncle’s tobacco farm in Pitt County.

He also shared his love of eastern North Carolina-style barbecue. “It’s the greatest food ever invented,” he said.

Ballard used his address at the full board meeting to highlight the university’s commitment to student success, regional transformation and public service brought to life through a video produced by ECU staff members. (That video, “Beyond Tomorrow: Our Commitment to Excellence,” is available at ecu.edu/news/bogatecu.cfm. In addition, read about the four ECU alumni on the board on page 47.)

During the Educational Planning, Policies and Programs Committee meeting, three ECU students spoke about their undergraduate research experiences—ranging from studying seasonal rainfall variability in Hawaii to researching the way India’s traditional medical system has been adapted through contact with western biomedicine.

Those students were Tori Chapman, a sophomore from Webster and a nutrition major who traveled to Honduras to work and study; Mansi Trivedi, a senior EC Scholar from Cary and a double major in biology and religious studies; and Thomas Vaughan, a senior from Murfreesboro and an applied atmospheric science major.

Trivedi told the Board of Governors: “Through my course work at ECU, the time I have

spent abroad and opportunities like my senior honors thesis, I have truly learned the importance of gaining a multidisciplinary education. The diverse experiences I have had have deeply influenced me and shaped my plans after I graduate.”

After the meeting adjourned, Chancellor Ballard said: “ECU is grateful that the Board of Governors came to Greenville and experienced this great university firsthand. The administration was very pleased with all four days and the related events. The governors heard and experienced our commitment to North Carolina, the excellence of our students and faculty, and the world-class quality of our Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival performers.”

—Jeannine Manning Hutson and Kathryn Kennedy

ECU’s millennial campus approved

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors voted April 10 to approve ECU’s request to designate four parcels of property it owns as a millennial campus—sites where the university can collaborate with private companies to commercialize research discoveries and offer advanced training to benefit the region’s high-tech industries.

Officials said the parcels would be known collectively as the East Carolina Research and Innovation Campus.

ECU officials said millennial campus activities would initially begin on a 22.3-acre site in Greenville’s warehouse district on 10th Street a few blocks west of Main Campus. The site, which ECU acquired several years ago, covers seven blocks and includes three tobacco warehouses listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

One of the warehouses, the Export Tobacco Leaf factory known as the Haynie Building, is expected to be the initial focus of ECRIC once it is refurbished. Built in 1914, it fronts 10th Street and covers the entire block between

Pitt and Greene streets three blocks west of Main Campus.

Millennial campuses are geographic areas where anchor institutions—usually research universities—join with education, industry, government, military and other partners to discover, invent and produce new commercial products.

Under state law, the millennial campus designation gives ECU regulatory flexibility to finance repairs to the historic buildings and leeway to collaborate in business ventures with industry partners.

ECU has received eligibility certification to apply the N.C. Historic Mill Rehabilitation Tax Credit toward the cost of renovating the warehouses, according to Scott Buck, ECU associate vice chancellor for business services. Buck said those tax credits could defray 40 percent or more of the cost of the renovations.

The focus of the millennial campus will be creating partnerships with private companies that will foster economic growth in the region and create jobs attractive to ECU graduates, said Ted Morris, ECU associate vice chancellor

for innovation and economic development.

“ECU’s commitment to economic development and regional transformation is predicated on the right spaces and the business freedoms needed to interact creatively with the private sector,” said Provost Ron Mitchelson. “I couldn’t be more pleased and thankful for the trust and the support shown by the UNC Board of Governors.”

It’s anticipated that ECRIC will lease space in the Haynie Building to one or more partner companies, angel investors and some business start-ups, Mitchelson said.

In addition to the warehouse district property, the Board of Governors granted millennial campus status to three other ECU parcels:

- The university’s uptown properties—19 acres that lie on both sides of Reade Street from Fifth Street to First Street and the riverfront park.
- The Health Sciences Campus.
- The Stratford Arms and Blount Fields properties across Charles Boulevard from Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium.

Nearly all nurses pass exam

The ECU College of Nursing saw 96 percent of its bachelor of science graduates pass the national licensing exam in 2014, according to an annual report received by the UNC Board of Governors.

Of the 233 members of the College of Nursing’s Class of 2014 who took the National Council Licensure Examination, 224 passed, according to the report, which the board received at its April 10 meeting on the ECU campus.

Passing the national exam is required to receive a license from the N.C. Board of Nursing.

Twelve UNC campuses have nursing programs. Of those, ECU had the largest number of bachelor of science nursing graduates taking and passing the NCLEX-RN exam. UNC-Chapel Hill, which had 161 of its 169 test-takers passing the exam, was second largest.

The average 2014 exam passing rate for all 12 UNC-system campuses with nursing programs was 92 percent in 2014, the report said. The national average was 85 percent.

The N.C. Board of Nursing requires a nursing program’s three-year average of graduates passing the exam be at least 95 percent of the national passing rate in order to remain in good standing. Thus, the minimum passing rate for UNC nursing programs in 2014 was 81 percent.

ECU’s exam passing rate for 2012-14 was 95.5 percent.

Enrollment in the nursing program at N.C. A&T State University in Greensboro was suspended by the Board of Governors last year because it did not meet the three-year minimum graduation rate.

In 2014, ECU had 706 students enrolled in its bachelor of nursing program, 412 enrolled in its master of nursing and 103 in its doctorate of nurse practitioner program, the report said. That total enrollment of 1,221 accounts for nearly 20 percent of the enrollment in all nursing



Ted Morris and Scott Buck at the Haynie Building

degree programs at the 12 UNC campuses that offer nursing.

The bachelor of science in nursing is one of fastest-growing degrees in the UNC system, up 44 percent over the past five years. Since 2010, enrollment in UNC system bachelor's, master's and doctoral nursing programs combined rose 30 percent.

Dean Sylvia Brown noted that ECU is quickly implementing a cooperative program with six community colleges in the region aimed at graduating more nurses with bachelor's degrees.

An articulation agreement between the UNC system and the state's 58 community colleges, adopted by the Board of Governors in February, assures that students who complete an associate's degree at a community college will be awarded at least 58 semester credits upon admission to a UNC-system campus with a nursing program.

Brown said ECU's Regionally Increasing Baccalaureate Nurses program is "providing an economically feasible pathway for students to pursue their degree."

The articulation agreement "is great news as we work to continue providing talented graduates prepared for promising careers as tomorrow's nurses," Brown added. —*Steve Tuttle*

Bonds for new student center approved

The UNC Board of Governors approved ECU's request to issue special obligation bonds to pay for a new student services building on the Health Sciences Campus.

Meeting in Greenville on April 9 and 10, the board gave the go-ahead for ECU to issue \$80 million in special obligation bonds. Of that, ECU will use \$30.1 million to pay for construction of the student services building and \$49.9 million to refinance outstanding debt from previous campus projects at lower interest rates.

The board and the N.C. General Assembly previously approved ECU's plan to build student centers for Main Campus and

the Health Sciences Campus.

The student services building for the Health Sciences Campus is the first phase of a two-phase project. A financing plan for the second phase—a new student center for Main Campus—is expected to be presented to the Board of Governors this fall.

Special obligation bonds give UNC campuses more leeway to finance construction projects than other bonds. Special obligation bonds generally can be repaid from any campus revenue source excluding tuition, state appropriations and restricted funds.

ECU has above-average credit ratings and is expected to retain those ratings after issuing the \$80 million in bonds.

In other actions, the board did the following:

- Authorized ECU to spend \$2.5 million to plan a major renovation to Clement Residence Hall. Officials said the 10-story dorm, built in 1969, is not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The renovation is estimated to cost more than \$20 million and will be funded from housing receipts. During the renovation, interior living spaces, bathrooms and study areas will be redone, and the building exterior will be replaced. ECU is in the process of renovating four residence halls.
- Approved ECU's \$550,000 acquisition of a roughly half-acre tract in uptown Greenville. The property, at 119 S. Cotanche St., is a former Pitt County ABC store. With the acquisition of the property, ECU now owns the entire block bounded by East First, East Second, Reade and Cotanche streets. ECU will use auxiliary overhead receipts to buy the property.
- Approved ECU's request to spend \$498,000 to repair and renovate space inside the Brody Medical Sciences Building. The renovated space will become offices for the medical school's Department of Risk Management. Officials said the project, which will be paid for with carry-forward funds, will begin in July and should be completed by October.

—*Steve Tuttle*



Mitchelson named provost

Ron Mitchelson has been named provost at ECU after serving in the role on an interim basis since last year.

ECU trustees made Mitchelson's position permanent at their February meeting. After a national search, Chancellor Steve Ballard selected Mitchelson from what he described as "an excellent pool of candidates."

After the board's unanimous vote to approve Mitchelson for the position, the decision was greeted with a round of applause from the audience. Asked if he had any further comments on Mitchelson's appointment, Ballard said, "I believe the applause speaks for itself."

A geographer, Mitchelson has been at ECU since 1999. He chaired the geography department and served as interim chair of the English department. In 2011 he was appointed to chair ECU's Program Prioritization Committee, which evaluated programs campuswide and examined the university's academic structure.

Mitchelson also spent two years as interim associate vice chancellor for research and chief research officer in the Division of Research and Graduate Studies.

"Ron Mitchelson has proven himself as department chair, associate vice chancellor and now interim vice chancellor," said Ballard. "He has excellent experience with the Program Prioritization Committee and the Committee on Fiscal Sustainability. He has earned the respect of his colleagues. We had

a competitive national search, and Ron was easily the choice, in large part because of his proven leadership qualities and values."

As provost, Mitchelson will serve as ECU's chief academic officer with oversight of academic programming, enrollment management, institutional planning and research, and equity and diversity.

During his six months as interim provost, Mitchelson guided the development of ECU's new strategic plan, which sets the course for the university for the next five years. He said he's "honored and will work tirelessly" to achieve the school's mission and the priorities set out in the strategic plan, primarily student success, regional transformation and public service.

The time as interim provost has provided valuable training, he said.

"I think I've learned a lot more about some of the parts and pieces of the university I was less familiar with," he said. "Those experiences really have helped me come to a deeper understanding of ECU and the university system as a whole."

Mitchelson graduated from the State University of New York in Buffalo in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in geography. He holds master's and doctoral degrees in geography from The Ohio State University. Before coming to ECU, he held faculty and administrative positions at the University of Georgia and Morehead State University in Kentucky.

—*Doug Boyd*



Jeff Shinpaugh and Regina DeWitt, faculty members in the physics department who received external research funding in 2013, are shown in the ECU accelerator laboratory in the Howell Science Complex.

ECU shows growth in research funding

Following three years of significant growth in research dollars, ECU now ranks third among the state's public universities in research funding.

From 2011-2014, ECU averaged a 17 percent annual growth rate in external research dollars, hitting \$38.3 million in 2013, according to the National Science Foundation's annual Higher Education Research and Development Survey. That placed ECU behind only the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and N.C. State University among the schools in the UNC system.

ECU's growth rate outpaces the average rate of 3 percent among the university's peer institutions nationwide, according to Michael Van Scott, ECU interim associate vice chancellor for research and chief research officer. He presented the research figures to the ECU Board of Trustees last month.

"It takes a concerted effort over many years to grow a research program," said Van Scott. During the last decade, ECU improved research facilities, recruited research-active faculty members and accelerated acquisition of external, or extramural, funding.

The investment in support of new faculty amounts to \$2.7 million annually, he said, and it's paying dividends.

"Even with the cuts in state appropriations, the university has continued to invest funds to seed research by promising faculty members," Van Scott said. "A portion of the indirect costs recovered each year on extramural grants is distributed to the faculty and units where the research was conducted. These funds are used to further invest in the research enterprise. This amounts to about \$2 million that seeds future research grants.

"We also invest about \$300,000 to \$500,000 each year to support new investigative teams that have ideas for projects that can be competitive for extramural funding and to provide time for faculty members to write competitive grant proposals," he added.

One example is Ben Fraser, who joined ECU last July as a professor of Hispanic studies and chair of foreign languages and literatures. ECU's support is helping him create an interdisciplinary team focusing on innovative digital projects.

"The internal start-up grant I received for (academic year) 2015-16 is helping me in setting up a digital humanities lab," he said, in partnership with several faculty members from his and other departments.

In addition, the ECU Division of Research and Graduate Studies is offering \$30,000 for a one-time competitive faculty grant program this summer to support digital projects that link disciplines, target national grants and engage community partnerships.

Van Scott credited academic departments at ECU for managing faculty workloads to make the most of research opportunities. Some tenure-track faculty members and non-tenure track faculty take on greater teaching loads to free up research-active faculty who can compete for external funds.

"The faculty members that are taking on more teaching are doing a great job, as indicated by national benchmarks for the value added to students attending ECU," he said. "Faculty that have been freed up to develop research programs are being accountable for the time they

are provided. To see increases in research expenditures in this environment reflects a lot of hard work by the faculty as a whole within a team environment."

Of the \$38.3 million ECU received in 2013, 80 percent came from external sources— 73 percent of that from competitive grants and contracts awarded to faculty members and the remainder from foundations. Nationally, only 77 percent of these funds come from external sources, with 71 percent of that from competitive grants and contracts, according to NSF statistics.

ECU's recent performance comes at a time when total funding for research at universities, adjusted for inflation, has been flat, and federal funding has decreased, according to NSF statistics.

For several reasons, Van Scott expects research expenditures for the next two years to be similar to 2012 levels of about \$32 million before growing again. The recent tuition increase ECU trustees approved "should provide much-needed salary support for our faculty that are productive in research as well as teaching," he said.

—*Doug Boyd*



ECU holds topping-out ceremony for new College Hill residence hall

Heavy downpours didn't dampen the celebration of a construction milestone for Gateway Residence Hall at ECU on Jan. 12.

At a rainy topping-out ceremony, representatives from ECU and construction contractors signed a beam that will be added to a truss on the roof of the new building.

Slated to open in August, Gateway will house 720 students

and will include study spaces, meeting rooms, music practice rooms, lounges, outdoor courtyards, a sand volleyball court and a basketball court. It is the first new residence hall to open on campus in almost 10 years.

"We're in the homestretch with this project," said Virginia Hardy, vice chancellor for student affairs at ECU. "This really will be the crown jewel

and capstone for College Hill."

As its name describes, the hall will serve as a gateway from the campus's College Hill area—bounded by 10th and 14th streets—to ECU athletic complexes across 14th Street. It replaces Belk Residence Hall, which was demolished last year.

Gateway will be home to several university living-learning

communities, where students with the same major or interests live in the same hall, including biology and the Honors College.

"We have a lot to be proud of here," said Aaron Lucier, director of housing operations at ECU. "This is an amazing addition to College Hill. It truly will be a core part of campus."

The Gateway East and Gateway West towers will be connected by an enclosed aerial bridge on the second floor, said Gina Shoemaker, the project manager and assistant director of facilities and architectural services at ECU.

If certified, it will be the first residence hall at ECU with Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design certification for building sustainability. "We do have other buildings on campus with that status but no residence halls," Shoemaker said.

The \$58 million building was designed by Davis Kane Architects of Raleigh. Barnhill Contracting Company of Rocky Mount and Raleigh is the construction manager. Contractors include Cooper Electrical Construction Company of Morrisville, Kirlin Mechanical Services of Raleigh, Southern Piping Company of Wilson and Manning Masonry of Williamston.

Approximately 250 people work every day at the site, which has a "construction cam" available at oxblue.com/open/ECUBelk to view progress online.

Gateway will be the first residence hall to open at ECU since College Hill Suites in 2006. Before that, no other newly constructed residence hall had opened since the 1960s, although many have had extensive renovations, Shoemaker said.

—Crystal Baity



ECU biology professor Marcelo Ardón, foreground, and graduate student Tori Goehrig gather data for research on the intrusion of saltwater into freshwater sources along North Carolina's coastal plain.

Scientists receive funding to study, protect N.C.'s inner banks

A new grant will allow ECU and partner institutions to address a saltwater issue affecting the ecosystems and economy of eastern North Carolina.

Saltwater from the ocean is making its way into freshwater sources along the coastal plain, causing a myriad of problems. By joining forces with N.C. State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University, ECU researchers plan to examine these problems through a multidisciplinary lens.

Marcelo Ardón, assistant professor in ECU's biology department, is the university's principal investigator for the five-year project. He is overseeing \$354,775 of the total \$1.5 million awarded by the National Science Foundation's Coastal Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability program.

"Primarily we're looking to understand the consequences to agriculture and to natural ecosystems when you have increasing salinity in the inner banks," Ardón said. Their research focuses on the peninsula surrounded by the Albemarle, Pamlico and Croatan sounds.

Researchers already have good projections about the impact

of sea level rise in the next 100 years, but this group wants to study exactly what to expect just 10 or 20 years down the road.

"We won't simply wake up one day and find (the peninsula) permanently inundated by saltwater," said Ryan Emanuel, the project's lead investigator and assistant professor of hydrology at N.C. State. "Rather, the complex interactions between humans and nature will determine when, where and how saltwater will invade this region over the next several decades."

This saltwater intrusion—the landward movement of salinity from the coast onto the coastal plain—has major consequences to the lives of residents in the area and the economy of eastern North Carolina; timber companies and agricultural corporations own a majority of land on the sounds.

"When you have increasing salinity (in freshwater), it leads to several issues: It causes plant mortality, which is very bad for agriculture, and it can decrease water quality by causing soils to release too many nutrients," Ardón said. It's also a problem for drinking water, which can be expensive to desalinate, he added.

The project team will study the natural and human causes of saltwater intrusion, which Ardón explained is most likely to improve or worsen based on how people change their behaviors.

"A lot of it will have to do with the decisions that people make: whether or not to use pump stations (in ditches and canals), whether or not to build more or fewer canals in agricultural fields, when to pump and how much to pump," he said.

An important piece of the study will be interacting with residents who live in the area. As the social scientist on the project, Todd BenDor, associate professor of city and regional planning at UNC-Chapel Hill, will coordinate these stakeholder meetings.

"Very few assessments of sea level rise really look at how people who own or manage land will actually react to changes in the landscape," BenDor said. "They take it as a given that landowners will eventually flee the coast as saltwater starts to inundate their properties. However, we know that this process will take time and that in the interim, a lot of efforts will be made to change the way land is managed."

Working with government and private entities in the region, the team will communicate possible consequences based on their saltwater monitoring data. They are planning to host at least one stakeholder meeting for each year of the grant, where they will share updates in an easy-to-understand and relevant way.

"The first set of workshops is mostly for us to collect information and, at the same time, we'll be collecting the field data," said Ardón. "In subsequent years, we'll present the results and use different scenarios to illustrate what is most likely to occur, and most importantly, give them a toolkit that they can use to make better decisions."

Also working on the project are Emily Bernhardt and Justin Wright, who are ecologists at Duke University. Ardón is excited to have a diverse group of researchers with various areas of expertise and from different schools.

"It's pretty unique to have experts from these four large universities working together," Ardón said. "It doesn't actually happen that often. So that's very exciting."

—Kelly Setzer



From left, N.C. Sen. Louis Pate, Chancellor Steve Ballard, N.C. Secretary of Health and Human Services Aldona Vos, and N.C. Rep. Brian Brown, far right, listen as Gov. Pat McCrory speaks during a visit to the East Carolina Heart Institute at ECU.

McCrory budget supports Brody School of Medicine

Gov. Pat McCrory announced during his March 2 visit to the East Carolina Heart Institute at ECU that his budget will allocate \$16 million over the next two years to stabilize the financial challenges at the Brody School of Medicine.

“With those funds, my goal is for all of us to use the next two years to develop a long-term plan for a sustainable economic model that will allow the school to continue producing the doctors North Carolina needs for generations to come,” said McCrory.

Following a private meeting with ECU Chancellor Steve

Ballard, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Rick Niswander and Brody administrators, the governor toured the heart center’s Robotics Lab and tried his hand at a robotic surgery simulation.

Also in attendance were Dr. Aldona Vos, secretary of the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, N.C. Sen. Louis Pate and N.C. Rep. Brian Brown.

At a news conference following the tour, the governor said, “The Brody School has continued to deliver on the mission our state Legislature set forth for it. Now we need to find a way to

build upon those successes and expand them.

“I don’t see ECU as being only for eastern North Carolina. I see it as being for all of North Carolina,” he added.

Wos said: “It’s critical that we continue to fulfill the promise of 1974 — to provide access to care for the citizens of this region. The only way to do that is to have a viable medical community here that’s training the next generation of providers. The majority of physicians who train here stay here. And I want to thank Brody for that.”

Ballard told McCrory, “I assure you that ECU will do our part. We’ll continue to spruce up the long-term plan we’ve been working on. It focuses on increasing efficiencies and continuing the excellent relationship we have with Vidant Medical Center, who is instrumental to our long-term plan.

“This funding means a flagship program of ours will be sustained,” he said, “and we’ll be able to continue impacting health care and economic development in the East.”

—Amy Adams Ellis



Registrar’s office moves downtown

ECU’s Office of the Registrar celebrated its re-opening less than a block from campus Feb. 12.

The office moved from the Whichard Building to a leased 8,062-square-foot space at 207 E. Fifth St. Formerly a nightclub, the renovated building features large windows, reclaimed hardwood floors and exposed brick walls.

“The entire uptown community has been very welcoming,” said Angela Anderson, university registrar.

The office is the first of several the university plans to move downtown, said Rick Niswander, vice chancellor for administration and finance. A few, including financial services and information technology, are already off campus.

“This is the first step in a multi-step process,” he said. In the next two years, the cashier’s office, financial aid, admissions and related student services are

expected to move downtown to free up space on Main Campus, Niswander said. “The concept is it’s a one-stop shop.”

Twenty-nine staff members in the registrar’s office are responsible for student

records, class registration for students, assigning classroom space, issuing grades and transcripts, certifying degree requirements, mailing diplomas to graduates and maintaining a student database.

Students, prospective students and parents will be able to park near the building or take an ECU Transit bus that has a stop nearby. Most functions can be handled electronically, which eliminates the long lines of students that used to wrap around the Whichard Building during registration, Anderson said.

“They can do many things online but a lot of students still want

to come in and see somebody,” Anderson said. “The fact that we’re adjacent to campus is a very good thing.”

The office is in the process of digitizing all records dating back to the first students who enrolled in 1909. “Those were done in pencil and on very thin paper,” Anderson said.

Officials are planning uses for the vacated space in the Whichard Building, Niswander said.

More information is online at ecu.edu/registrar, by emailing regis@ecu.edu or calling 252-328-6524.

—Crystal Baity



Susan Pitts of the registrar’s office moves boxes into the Fifth Street building.

100 YEARS AGO

First student teachers



in her nervousness and excitement, knocked the clock on the floor, cleared the teacher’s desk of its school equipment and fell over the feet of” the 27 students in the room, according to a story in the *Training School Quarterly*. Four of the first student teachers are shown standing along the wall in the photo at left.

ECTTS’ new Model School opens in the spring of 1915, and some of the first students to do their practice teaching there find the experience a bit daunting. One student teacher, “while demonstrating the steps to a song,

75 YEARS AGO

Alma mater debuts



“Hail to Thy Name So Fair” is adopted as East Carolina’s alma mater song in the spring of 1940. The lyrics are attributed to Harold McDougale ’44, an older student who also was band director at the old Greenville High School. While there he wrote the lyrics to the high school’s alma mater, *Dear Old Greenville*. He taught in the ECC music department in 1946 and 1947.

Hail to Thy Name So Fair

Praise to your name so fair,
Dear old East Car’lina,
Your joys we’ll all share,
And your friends we’ll ever be.
We pledge our loyalty,
And our heart’s devotion,
To thee, our alma mater,
Love and praise.

50 YEARS AGO

Med school legislation passes



On April 1, 1965, state Sen. Walter B. Jones and Rep. W.A. “Red” Forbes introduce identical bills in the N.C. General Assembly to create a two-year medical school at East Carolina. Despite the opposition of many groups, the bill passes the Senate on July 9. A slightly amended version passes the House two days later. The legislation gives East Carolina initial funding of \$100,000 to hire a dean and set up a curriculum and \$250,000 for operational costs the second year. The legislation also appropriates \$1.5 million toward a medical school building provided East Carolina can obtain \$4 million in federal or private funding. The *Greenville Daily Reflector’s* two-inch tall headline the next day is “College Enters New Era.” In the photo at left taken shortly after the legislation is enacted, Jones pretends to be a doctor to examine state Sen. Robert Morgan.

25 YEARS AGO

Halloween ‘rioters’ go to court



Trials begin in January 1990 for the 134 mostly ECU students arrested Oct. 31 at the infamous “Halloween riot” at Tar River Estates. After reviewing TV footage of the incident, District Court Judge James Ragan III dismisses failure to disperse charges against 80 of them and offers a deal to the remaining 54: They can either plead guilty and receive a prayer for judgment continued, or perform 25 hours of community service and have all charges dismissed. The editor and business manager of the *Buccaneer* yearbook reject the deal. They claim they were acting as journalists when they were arrested while taking pictures of the police action, but are found guilty. “I find no freedom of the press that applies in this case,” Ragan rules.

All photos courtesy University Archives

DSM Dyneema to fund EC Scholar award

High-performance materials manufacturer DSM Dyneema will fund an EC Scholar award to be earmarked for an engineering student beginning with the 2016-2017 academic year.

DSM Dyneema, which has a Greenville manufacturing facility, and ECU made the announcement March 17 in the Mamie Jenkins Building, the administrative home of the Honors College.

“This is an exciting day for the EC Scholars program and the start to a valuable relationship benefiting our students, the Honors College and the College of Engineering and Technology,” said Todd Fraley, director of the EC Scholars Award Program. “The commitment shown by DSM Dyneema to the development of our students is truly appreciated.”

EC Scholars is the most prestigious undergraduate award program offered at ECU. The four-year merit scholarship recognizes outstanding academic performance, commitment to community engagement and strong leadership skills. Recipients receive an Honors College scholarship for four years, along with a stipend for study abroad, for a total value of \$61,000.

The scholarship funded annually by DSM Dyneema will be one of 20 EC Scholar awards given each year. Intended engineering majors beginning in fall 2016 will be eligible.

DSM Dyneema Engineering

Director Scott Quinn said the company is happy to partner with ECU to provide the scholarship opportunity. The company pledged \$40,000 for the award and a guaranteed paid internship for the selected student.

“We recognize the tremendous strengths of ECU’s engineering program and the positive impact it has on our region and our future workforce,” Quinn said. “Through the DSM Dyneema EC Scholar for Engineering Award, our partnership will further enhance the engineering program at ECU and continue to draw in high-caliber students pursuing a career in engineering.”

Quinn added the company hopes to encourage other industries and businesses to fund similar EC Scholar awards.

“We are making an investment in the development of our region and its workforce, and we hope that other industries will recognize the benefits and join us in this effort,” he said.

Hayden Griffin, chair of ECU’s engineering department, said DSM Dyneema’s commitment “really shows how important our programs are to local industry. This industry came to us and said, ‘We want to do it.’”

Twenty-eight Honors College students—including eight EC Scholars—major in engineering. Having a scholarship dedicated for an engineering student will be a great recruitment tool, Griffin said.

—Crystal Baity

From left, ECU Honors College Dean Marianna Walker; Todd Fraley, director of the EC Scholars Program; Ricky Castles, assistant professor of engineering; Scott Snead, ECU major gifts officer; Hayden Griffin, professor and chair of engineering; DSM Dyneema site director Jim Lawless; engineering director Scott Quinn; and human resources and training director Deb Mungal pose with a ceremonial check symbolizing the manufacturer’s donation.



African art displayed at ECU

For the first time ever, most of East Carolina University’s extensive African art collection was exhibited simultaneously at six different sites during February.

With close to 600 pieces, ECU has one of the most important university-held teaching collections in the United States, said Ken Wilburn, history professor at ECU.

The functional and ceremonial African art—mainly from central, western and southern Africa—includes headdresses, sculptures, vessels, jewelry, weapons, musical instruments and rare examples of figures and masks.

ECU amassed the pieces over the past 25 years from three individuals: Winston-Salem physician James L. Lankton, Wilmington collector and

dealer Charles Jones and an anonymous donor.

Wilburn, who uses the collection as part of his History of Africa class, said viewers should be mindful that the pieces were created for function, not admiration.

“Each piece was created to fulfil a purpose in its village of origin,” he said.

For instance, African masks are often used in coming-of-age initiation ceremonies. Traditional African art is also used for religious rituals, Wilburn said.

More than 250 pieces come from the central African Kuba region and may be the largest collection in the country, Wilburn said. “When the Kuba section was first exhibited at ECU about 20 years ago,



Bill Myers and Dick Knight of Two of a Kind performed at the African art exhibit reception.

a member of the Kuba royal family was present,” he said.

Wilburn hopes the exhibit will bring awareness to traditional African societies and cultures.

The African Student Organization and Invisible Children

helped plan the reception and had student hosts at each site.

The exhibition was an outgrowth of ongoing efforts to establish permanent display space for the African art collection at ECU.



ECU to develop unique training network for pharmaceutical industry

ECU is teaming up with Pitt Community College to develop a premier laboratory-based education and training network for the pharmaceutical industry thanks to new funding from the Golden LEAF Foundation.

The foundation’s largest grant of its type this year, totaling \$1.75 million, will be awarded to establish the Biopharmaceutical Work Force Development and Manufacturing Center of Excellence. The grant was announced March 2 in downtown Greenville.

With a goal of transforming eastern North Carolina’s economy, the funds will be dispersed as \$1.1 million to ECU and \$650,000 to PCC. The two schools will work closely with companies including Patheon, Hospira, Mayne Pharma and others to ensure the development of technically skilled and creative students to support the region’s employment goals.

“ECU’s Department of Chemistry has partnered with industry scientists for many years to offer our graduates a leg up when looking for jobs in the pharmaceutical industry,” said Keith Holmes, grant project manager, Department of Chemistry teaching instructor and retired pharmaceutical executive. “We are proud that our work has culminated in this exciting grant and partnership, which will expand our laboratory and personnel to develop a true capstone course for scientists from many disciplines.”

Regional employers are focused on expanding their expertise and operations in the form of pharma-

ceutical development services such as drug design and discovery; sterile formulation, packaging, development and manufacturing; analytical development and quality control/assurance; and other supporting services.

This expansion is anticipated to make Patheon’s Greenville location the company’s flagship facility and part of the world’s largest contract development and manufacturing organization. The latest expansion brings significant jobs and investment to the region.

“ECU continues to play a leading role in the growth of North Carolina’s advanced manufacturing industries and workforce,” said Ted Morris, associate vice chancellor, head of ECU’s Office of Innovation and Economic Development and co-principal investigator on the project.

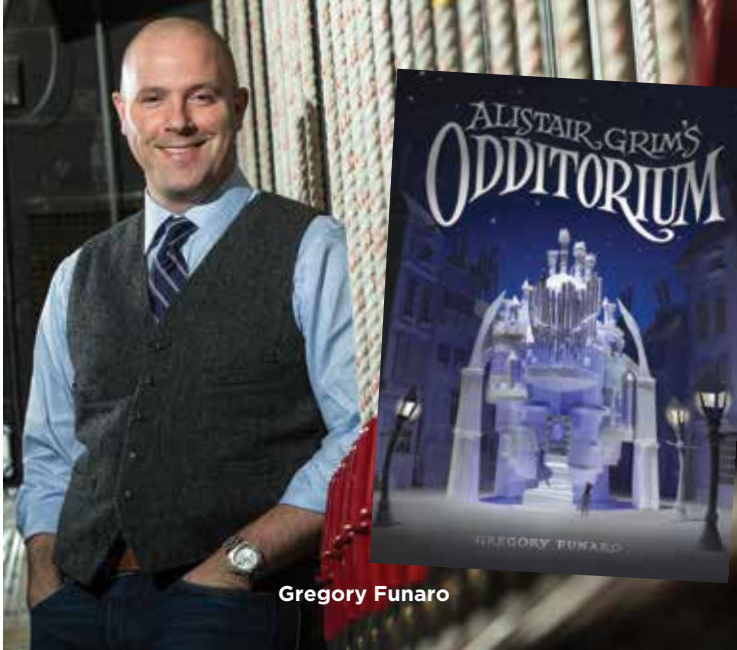
The Pitt County Development Commission reports that more than 8,000 people are directly employed in pharmaceutical manufacturing in Johnson, Wilson, Nash and Pitt counties.

“The partnership we have developed between the Department of Chemistry and ECU’s Office of Innovation and Economic Development is such an effective way to meet the needs of industry,” said Allison Danell. She is the Department of Chemistry’s interim chair as well as grant director and lead principal investigator on the project. “We are excited to have such significant support from the Golden LEAF Foundation, which will benefit so many ECU students and workers in the region.”

—Kelly Setzer

Pictured at the announcement of the Golden LEAF Foundation grant are, from left, Maria Pharr, N.C. Community College BioNetwork executive director; Thomas Gould, vice president of academic affairs at Pitt Community College; Dan Gerlach, president of the Golden LEAF Foundation; Provost Ron Mitchelson; and Associate Vice Chancellor Ted Morris.





Gregory Funaro

Theater professor finds magic in children’s book

In writing about the enchanting adventures of a 12-year-old boy in 19th century London, an ECU theater professor has discovered a magical world of his own.

Gregory Funaro is earning glowing reviews for his whimsical story *Alistair Grim’s Odditorium*, published in January by Disney.

“It’s a book about family. It’s a book about friendship, and ultimately—it sounds corny, but—it’s about how love conquers all,” Funaro said.

Trained in theater, Funaro began channeling excess creativity into composing screenplays and books as a hobby while part of an acting troupe nearly 15 years ago.

“I didn’t exactly plan on being a writer; it just happened,” he said. “I wish I had a revelatory moment where I was inspired to do it, but it was a fun time-killer for me initially.”

It was this casual pastime that led him to explore the inventive and otherworldly plot of *Alistair Grim’s Odditorium*, the first in a planned series.

After an orphan named Grubb, the central character and narrator, is whisked away to a strange world called the Odditorium, he is allowed to stay as an apprentice as long as he doesn’t share any secrets about his new home with the public.

“The Odditorium is powered by a mysterious glowing blue energy called ‘animus,’ but the animus has to stay within the walls of the Odditorium,” Funaro said.

Through a series of events, Grubb accidentally lets some of the animus escape, which sets off a heroic adventure of discovery.

Amazon.com editors quickly selected Funaro’s *Odditorium* for their Best Book of the Month list during January, while Bookish.com chose it for their Winter’s Best Children’s and Middle Grade Books list. It’s rated with 4.5 stars on Amazon and 3.93 on GoodReads and has received positive features on websites such as Hypable and the Publishers Weekly Review.

“I’m thrilled that it’s getting such positive reviews, but what means the most to me is that kids love it,” Funaro said. “I get notes about it from kids, and then parents tell me ‘my child doesn’t like to read but couldn’t put your book down.’ All the reviews in the world don’t compare to that.”

Funaro said he has found his niche, although his earlier writings were part of a darker genre. His first two published books were thrillers featuring characters different from young Grubb and Mr. Grim. The birth of his daughter led him to shift focus.

“You spend so much time doing research, getting into the minds of horrible characters (as a thriller writer)—and then you have to turn that off and play with your new child,” he said. “It just felt uncomfortable.”

His second book in the series, *Alistair Grim’s Odd Aquaticum*, is scheduled for release in spring 2016.

—Kelly Setzer

Invention monitors athletes’ weight, dehydration

ECU associate professor Sharon Rogers has spent hours weighing high school football players before and after practice.

A certified athletic trainer, Rogers wanted to find a more efficient way to ensure the safety of athletes at risk for dehydration while saving time during weigh-ins at practices.

That led Rogers to invent the Sportscale, a kiosk-like device that combines a typical scale footplate with a computerized data retrieval system and fingerprint identifier.

Rogers’ prototype—developed and fine-tuned locally—is expected in time for fall sports. She was issued a U.S. patent for the device Feb. 17.

“As medical professionals, we want to make sure people are not leaving practice unusually dehydrated,” said Rogers, who teaches in the Department of Health Education and Promotion in the College of Health and Human Performance. “It’s important to monitor weight in periods of high heat and humidity. Assessing for the hydration needs of athletes after exercise is important because safety is paramount.”

Dehydration occurs when people use or lose more fluid than they take in, leaving the body without enough water and other fluids to perform normal activities. Athletes are considered dehydrated if they lose 3 percent or more of their weight due to sweating or not drinking enough

water during exercise. It’s not unheard of for heavier athletes, for instance, to lose 5 percent or more of their weight during intense preseason training sessions, Rogers said.

While mild or moderate dehydration can usually be reversed by drinking more fluid, severe dehydration requires immediate medical care.

Rogers envisions football, wrestling, soccer, cross country—any sport that recommends the monitoring of athletes’ weight—to benefit from her invention, especially in high schools. Athletic trainers and coaches have multiple responsibilities but must find time for what is currently a cumbersome process of assessing weight loss, she said.

“We do hope we can continue to make it applicable for more sports and more settings,” Rogers said. The military, public safety and other jobs with fitness requirements could be areas for expansion.

Rogers got the idea during preseason football workouts in August 2011.

“I had eight ankles to tape and 110 players to weigh. I’m standing there with a clipboard thinking there’s got to be an easier way,” Rogers said. “I started looking around the Internet, but there wasn’t anything applicable.”

Rogers oversees and coordinates a program providing athletic trainers to the Pitt County Schools to meet North Carolina High School Athletic Association

requirements that each high school designate either an athletic trainer or a first responder at all football activities. Athletic trainers are medical professionals with a four-year undergraduate degree who have passed a national board certification exam and have state licensure. A first responder is anyone who passes a first aid and CPR course.

Because of the service agreement with Pitt County, Rogers will test the prototype in other parts of North Carolina to avoid conflict of interest.

Rogers is partnering with a product development specialist to market the device commercially.

She has worked closely with engineer Sean Flanagan, owner of FlanTec, an engineering design, factory automation and product development corporation, to build the Sportscale prototype.

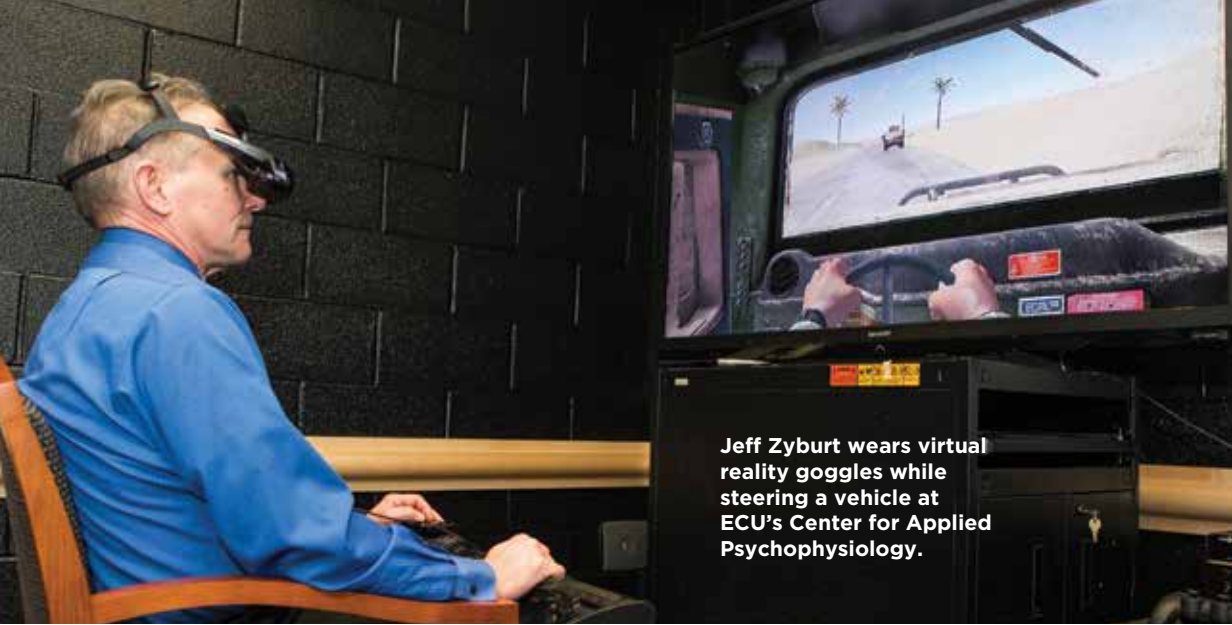
Robert Rankin, an ECU junior mechanical engineering major from Burgaw, developed the software for the device while working the past two years with Flanagan. “I’ve probably got close to 100 pages of code,” Rankin said.

The password and passcode-protected information will be stored to allow athletic trainers or site administrators to view each athlete’s progress including date of practice, time of weigh in and weigh out. Athletes will be required to use fingerprint identification for verification and log in.

—Crystal Baity



Engineer Sean Flanagan and ECU associate professor Sharon Rogers stand with the Sportscale prototype in Flanagan’s shop.



Jeff Zybert wears virtual reality goggles while steering a vehicle at ECU’s Center for Applied Psychophysiology.

Center to help military personnel recover from PTSD, related conditions

Jeff Zybert’s virtual reality goggles helped him experience the sensation of steering a military vehicle down a dusty road in a combat zone.

Zybert tried to avoid enemy fire while testing the device March 20 at the grand opening of ECU’s Center for Applied Psychophysiology. Housed in the College of Health and Human Performance, the center uses a combination of gaming technology and biofeedback techniques to help returning U.S. military personnel recover from post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.

“You can see where someone who had been through it would be ducking,” said Zybert, who operates a nonprofit for veterans and their families with his daughter, Tonia Zybert, who earned a master’s in recreational therapy and trained with Carmen Russoniello, director of the center.

Researchers at ECU have found video games, virtual reality and biofeedback can reduce the symptoms of PTSD and other psychological conditions that interfere with quality of life. ECU was the first accredited university to offer a graduate certificate in biofeedback.

ECU serves as a teaching hub for clinicians in addictions and rehabilitation studies, recreational therapy, counseling, medicine, nursing and other disciplines how to use the different therapies, to measure and monitor patient progress and improve well-being.

Creating partnerships has been at the core of the interdisciplinary

center, more than 15 years in the making, said Russoniello, a former Marine machine gunner and decorated Vietnam combat veteran who directs a biofeedback program for Wounded Warrior Marines at Camp Lejeune.

Doctoral students work with Marines two days a week in Jacksonville and also see clients in Greenville.

The virtual reality room features a big screen where clients strap on a headset and handheld device used to navigate different simulated scenarios. The floor beneath them will start vibrating, and a scent machine can create the aroma of motor oil, burning rubber, weapons fire, garbage—even body odor.

“We find scientifically that smell goes directly to the hypothalamus, to the brain,” Russoniello said. “It’s very powerful. We learn an awful lot about each other through smell.”

Participants become completely immersed in the setting. “That’s where we start to see people get really emotional,” he said, remembering a colonel who had been deployed seven times. “To him, it brought back all the fear. That’s what we want to deal with—employing some techniques to control those emotions.”

Bill Butler served in the Marine Corps for 30 years. He now works at the veterans center in Greenville. “We use this technology with combat vets,” Butler said about a game that resembles Bejeweled, a tile-matching puzzle video game.

An ear clip measures heart rate as a person plays the game. Resulting “stress” scores are saved to measure progress.

“A big benefit here is that if you ask someone what stresses them, each one will give you a different response,” said ECU doctoral student Christine Brown-Bochicchio. “But in doing something like this, we’ll see a very objective measurement.”

Butler said the therapy helps veterans work through feelings of self-doubt, anger and isolation. “We get in the weeds with them,” Butler said.

The center recently received a Department of Defense grant to study the efficacy of the heart rate variability biofeedback training program. The center also is developing and testing a mobile neurocognitive assessment and training system for the defense department.

Russoniello and his staff have helped analyze data for the Zyburts, who operate the Florida-based Warrior Institute, which offers a combination of recreational therapy and biofeedback training.

“Every veteran is different. Some respond to canoeing or open water,” Zybert said. “We are giving them more tools to manage their stress. You can see and feel that it’s good for them.”

More information about ECU’s program is online at www.ecu.edu/biofeedback.

—Crystal Baity



Trustee Danny Scott listens during a Feb. 20 Board of Trustees meeting.

and Advancement Committee to develop a plan for the creation of Heritage Hall.

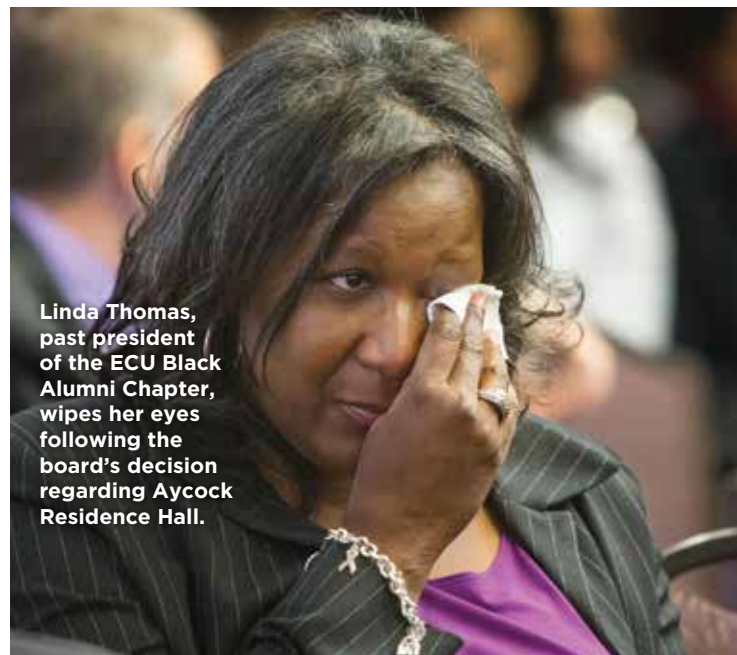
University Advancement will seek private donations to pay for the hall, and the Athletics and Advancement Committee will recommend its location.

Also, the board's University Affairs Committee was asked to study the implementation of a mandatory curriculum on the university's history and the times of its founding. The committee will evaluate the chancellor's proposal on a Center for Racial Diversity, its content, objectives and cost, and ways to demonstrate ECU's commitment to minority recruitment.

ECU becomes the first state-supported university in North Carolina to make a decision regarding buildings named for Aycock and his contemporaries. Several UNC-system schools are considering name changes. Duke University voted last year to rename a dorm that previously honored Aycock.

"As trustees, we are often asked to respond to issues that are difficult. This was one in which there were no easy answers," Brinkley said. "But we believe we arrived at the right decision for East Carolina University, one that was based on significant research and input from many constituencies. We believe the decision supports the university's mission, vision and values."

—Crystal Baily and Kelly Setzer



Linda Thomas, past president of the ECU Black Alumni Chapter, wipes her eyes following the board's decision regarding Aycock Residence Hall.

that received more than 2,500 responses. Earlier this week, a panel of faculty members hosted an information session on Aycock's legacy that was attended by more than 50 people despite wintry weather that closed classes early.

The board vote capped a week of advocacy organized by students called "Judgment Week" that included a sit-in at the residence hall and students lining the steps to Mendenhall Student Center's Great Room, where trustees held their bi-monthly meeting.

Tyler Morrison, president of the Black Student Union, said the week had given students a way to express their views. "With the length of the process, it discouraged some students," Morrison said. "We just wanted to make sure we got that student opinion out there."

Morrison wiped away tears and hugged other students after the board vote. "There is a high sense of accomplishment," Morrison said. "It affirms our faith in our university that our student voice, opinion and culture really matters to the trustees and administrators on campus."

Requests to revisit the naming were first heard from alumni and the university community early last year.

Jake Srednicki, ECU's Student Government Association president who was sworn in at the start of the meeting, said Judgment

Aycock legacy will transition to Heritage Hall

The ECU Board of Trustees voted Feb. 20 to transition the name of Charles B. Aycock from a residence hall to a new space where the building's namesake and others will be recognized.

Trustees called for the creation of a "heritage hall," which will be a permanent place where people of historical significance to the university are acknowledged in an "authentic and comprehensive context." The Aycock name will be transferred to the hall as soon as it's developed. There was no discussion on a possible new name for the residence hall.

"We believe that Aycock's legacy to education and his role in the history of ECU will be better recognized and understood in Heritage Hall," said Board of Trustees Chairman Robert Brinkley.

Chancellor Steve Ballard, the Student Government Association, ECU's faculty and staff senates and the ad-hoc naming committee recommended renaming the residence hall, which opened in 1960 and honors Aycock—a former governor, lawyer, federal prosecutor and school superintendent who served as a spokesperson for white supremacy campaigns at the turn of the century.

The board's decision comes after months of feedback, including two public forums and an informal online survey about renaming the residence hall



Rosie Thompson with Marian Hawkins Green

Rosalynn "Rosie" Thompson Smaw, one of the best women basketball players in ECU history, retired Dec. 31 after a long career here as a coach and administrator. She most recently served as ECU associate athletics director and senior women's sports administrator.

At a February reception in her honor (above), Thompson said her work with students might be what she misses most.

"When they come back and you see them come running—Ms. Thompson! Ms. Thompson!—you feel like you've made an impact on them while they were here," she said.

During her playing days from 1975 to 1980, she became the school's all-time leading scorer and rebounder. The only female ECU athlete to have her jersey retired, she still holds the school record for scoring in a season (723 points), and rebounds in a season (358). She was inducted into the ECU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1990.

"In my two short years here, she's just been a wonderful colleague and great professional to work alongside of," said Jeff Compher, ECU athletic director. "She's a dedicated Pirate who definitely puts the students first."

"No job is too big or too small for her. We're going to miss her an awful lot," he added.

Graduating in 1979, Thompson

signed with the St. Louis Streaks of the Women's Professional Basketball League. After her pro career, she returned to campus to serve as assistant director of admissions while studying for a master's degree, which she completed in 1985. She was the assistant women's basketball coach from 1987 to 1992, and then head coach until 1995 when she became a sports administrator.

She is widely remembered as captain of the team that posted the school's only women's basketball victories ever over the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During post-season action that year, ECU defeated Carolina twice by a combined three points.

Thompson was a star at Chocowinity High School before she was recruited to ECU. Margie Boyd, director of risk management and insurance at ECU, has known Thompson since high school.

"She was always there for everybody in every capacity," she said of Thompson's work in the athletic department. "She was the go-to person for everything in athletics."

Lynn Hodges of Washington knew Thompson in high school and attended basketball camps at ECU when Thompson was a player. She praised Thompson's work to help athletes navigate college life.

"She wasn't like that just for women athletes," Hodges said. "She was like that for all athletes."



Mark A. Notestine, former associate dean of advancement at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire and the associate vice president of development at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, was named the new president of the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation. He will serve as the foundation's chief operating officer and lead all fundraising activities for the

Division of Health Sciences. Notestine has bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Tennessee and a doctorate from Ohio University.



Phillip H. Pekala, the chair of the biochemistry department at the Brody School of Medicine, retired in December after 33 years on the faculty. He came to East Carolina in 1981 after finishing a postdoctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins University. He became a full professor in 1992 and was named assistant dean for research at Brody in 2004. He was named chair of biochemistry and molecular biology in 2010.



Michael Felts, a professor in the Department of Health Education and Promotion in the College of Health and Human Performance, was named interim faculty athletics representative. He will serve on the University Athletics Committee, represent ECU at American Athletic Conference meetings, engage with the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and work closely with leaders across divisions to ensure ECU continues to focus on its primary academic mission.



Karin Zipf, an associate professor of history, was elected president of the Historical Society of North Carolina at the organization's biannual meeting in Montreat in October. She will serve a one-year term. Zipf has been a member of the society since 2006 and previously served as vice president.



The *North Carolina Literary Review*, edited by ECU English professor **Margaret Bauer**, won the 2014 Phoenix Award for Significant Editorial Achievement from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals. The award was announced during the Modern Language Association conference in Vancouver on Jan. 8. This is the journal's fifth award from this allied organization of the Modern Language Association. CELJ's membership includes more than 450 editors of scholarly journals. ECU and the N.C. Literary and Historical Association publish NCLR. The award recognizes NCLR's expansion in 2012 to add a second issue each year, an open-access electronic issue titled NCLR Online.



An article by ECU accounting professor **Rebecca Fay** made the front page of the *Journal of Accountancy*, the leading journal published by the American Institute of CPAs. The magazine reaches 500,000 accounting and finance professionals each month, more than all other accounting publications combined. The article, "I'm not biased, am I?" was published Feb. 1.



John Hoppenthaler, an associate professor in the English department, has published his third volume of poems, *Domestic Garden*, with Carnegie Mellon University Press. Hoppenthaler's previous publications include *Lives of Water* and *Anticipate the Coming Reservoir*. He co-edited *Jean Valentine: This-World Company*, a collection of essays on the poetry of Jean Valentine.

Primed to practice

From their recruitment through four years of education, ECU School of Dental Medicine students strive to serve and are committed to rural health.

BY KATHRYN KENNEDY

Grace Harrell, left, and Dr. Alexis Brown treat a patient at the Ahoskie service learning center.

Jay Clark

Weeks away from the graduation of its first class of 50 dentists, the East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine is already improving oral health for North Carolinians.

The school has created jobs, improved access to dental care in rural and underserved areas, and continues to pioneer a new model for teaching dental medicine.

Its reach extends far beyond Greenville. The dental school stretches into Ahoskie and Elizabeth City, Lillington and Lumberton. Davidson County in the Piedmont and the mountain towns of Sylva and Spruce Pine have a piece of the purple and gold in the form of community service learning centers, where ECU faculty train dental students and residents and patients receive care.

When they leave East Carolina in May, these Pirate graduates will be qualified to work as general dentists anywhere in the nation. But the school is betting a majority of them will work in underserved North Carolina communities.

“We only admit North Carolina residents, but we look beyond residency status to roots,” says Dr. Maggie Wilson, associate dean for student affairs at the dental school. “We want to see ties to the state. We want somebody who has a commitment to helping people, to putting others’ needs first; somebody who values service above self.”

One example is Maggie Pafford, a Nashville, North Carolina, native, who plans to practice in the East after completing an advanced general dentistry at ECU’s soon-to-open Brunswick County community service learning center.

“The past four years have been such a learning experience, not only dental-related but personally,” says Pafford, who got married during her senior year. “Dental school has taught me so much about myself, the person I am and the person I want to be.”

A statewide challenge

Pafford’s desire to work in her home region exemplifies the mission of the dental school. That is to address North Carolina’s oral health challenges, which Dean Greg Chadwick describes as “a perfect storm.”

A decade ago, North Carolina was rapidly growing, and the population was shifting from rural areas to the state’s urban centers—creating pockets with limited access to dental care. The state ranked 47th nationally in the number of dentists per capita, according to the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The national average was six dentists for every 10,000 people. In the rural areas of North Carolina, there were half that many.

At the time, four counties, all in the Northeast, had no dentists: Tyrrell, Gates, Hyde and Camden.

“Eighty-five of the 100 counties in North Carolina are rural,” says Dr. Alec Parker, executive director of the North Carolina Dental Society. “Although these rural counties are sparsely populated compared to the remainder of the state, the people living there deserve access to oral health care provided by a licensed dentist.”

There were also concerns about the number of dentists approaching retirement. A third of North Carolina dentists are age 55 or older.

“Everyone agreed we’re going to need more dentists,” Chadwick says. What wasn’t clear was how best to meet that need.

“Many believed that increasing the enrollment at the UNC School of Dentistry by 50 additional students was a better option since it would require less state funding than creating a new institution,” Parker says.

But the model East Carolina administrators proposed—and the tenacity of community members and the local legislative delegation—won over the Board of Governors and, eventually, the Legislature.

“We would educate the next generation of dentists,” Chadwick says. “But we would also deliver the care. We’re changing the model of dental education.”

An innovative teaching method

For the 204 students enrolled at the School of Dental Medicine, their education consists of two novel approaches: an innovative curriculum that relies on technology and online instruction such as discussion forums and electronic assessment tools. Add to that a network of dental centers spread across the state—yet connected to Greenville via teledentistry—where they hone their skills as fourth-year students and residents.

Their first two years of studies are a grind. Basic science classes and labs keep students working around the clock before they ever peer into a patient’s mouth.

One lab experience stands out for senior Micah Naylor of Marion. “(T)here was a moment in pre-clinical when I had completed a composite restoration on my plastic patient,” he says. “Dr. (Cheryl) Serio inspected the restoration and told me she would be proud to call the restoration her own work. That meant a lot to me, and I think it will always hold a special place in my memories of ECU.”

By the third year, a student’s typical day combines course work and patient care at clinics in Ross Hall, the home of the school.

Once their fourth year rolls around, students leave Greenville in their rearview mirrors to go master complex procedures, exercise critical thinking and learn what working in a small-town, stand-alone practice is like.

They do that at the eight community service learning centers in rural and underserved areas across the state. It’s an innovative model for educating students that also has the immediate benefit of improving access to dental care statewide.

“It has been such an important part of my education to go to different cities and work with different patient populations,” says Bridgette Jones, who’s worked at the centers in Elizabeth City and Sylva. “It also allows us the opportunity to experience more real-world dentistry and learn from faculty with varied experiences. Lastly, it has allowed me to bond with my classmates.”



Cliff Hollis

Ledyard E. Ross Hall, home of the School of Dental Medicine



Ross '51, a retired Greenville orthodontist, pledged \$4 million to the school.

- Construction began in 2010
- Opened in 2012
- 188,000 square feet spread over four floors
- Home to classrooms, clinics, offices and teleconference rooms

The first two years of the school, students took classes in the Brody Medical Sciences Building. At the opening of Ross Hall, student (and 2015 graduate) Alex Crisp of Burlington said he felt like “I finally moved off my brother’s couch and got my own apartment.”

Beginnings of a school

ECU officials tried once in the early 2000s to get approval to build a dental school, but that effort fell short.

But a second attempt, fueled by a report ECU and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill created called “The Plan for Dentistry in North Carolina” received the UNC Board of Governors’ endorsement in 2006 and state funding of \$25 million the following year.

The plan called not only for a new school at ECU but also for UNC-Chapel Hill to expand its dental classes to 100.

The plan also noted that only 13 percent

of dentists are minorities, compared to 34 percent of North Carolinians. Educating minority dentists is an area of focus for ECU.

From two employees in the mid-2000s—Dr. Greg Chadwick, who then was associate vice chancellor for oral health charged with planning the school, and an administrative assistant—the dental school now has 224 full-time employees and 20 advanced general dentistry residents working at Ross Hall, the community service learning centers and Vidant Hospital. Among those are 110 full- and part-time faculty members, plus many instructors who volunteer their time.

—Doug Boyd



Forrest Croce



Jay Clark



Cliff Hollis

Flashback: Aug. 23, 2011, the first day of classes.

“It’s been exciting,” said Bridgette Jones of Winston-Salem, a graduate of Spelman College in Atlanta. “I’ve been looking forward to it for over a year now. We’re making history.” She said she chose ECU because the school and university had a family atmosphere.

Today, she’s headed for a general practice residency program in Asheville. “My four years at ECU have been a roller coaster, but it has been the best four years of my life,” she says. “My favorite memories would be spending time with my classmates. Whether it be stressing over a test, celebrating passing, or staying up late studying with them, they have made my time at ECU truly wonderful.”

—Doug Boyd

Each center is approximately 7,800 square feet and features modern treatment rooms, X-ray equipment, educational space and more. Each center has 1.5 dental faculty positions as well as a business manager, five to six dental assistants, two to three dental hygienists and two general dentistry residents. Thus, they create a local economic impact, which Chadwick estimates at more than \$1 million per center, while ensuring a consistent educational experience for students.

Any member of the community—including Medicaid patients—may receive dental care at the centers.

“Oral health is very important, and for many folks it goes unmet, undone,” Paula Carden, director of the Jackson County Health Department, said at the June opening of the Sylva center. “This great facility is going to lower the burden on our emergency rooms. The School of Dental Medicine, from East Carolina, is going to give western North Carolina its smile back.”

Monecia Thomas, director of the Department of Public Health in Davidson County, where officials cut the ribbon on an ECU dental center in December, says access and cost can often be barriers to oral health care.

“Not everyone in our community has the same access to good health care and the opportunity to make healthy choices,” she says. Thomas and others across the state believe ECU’s community service learning centers are changing that.

Numbers attest to that belief. More than 14,000 patients have received care at the centers and Ross Hall combined.

In addition, the students at the centers act as informal ECU ambassadors, helping attract patients to the clinics and future students to the school. Fourth-year student Jorge Arriagada says he and his classmates are sometimes stopped as they run errands in their scrubs. People are curious about who they are and why they’ve come to their community, he says.

Chadwick hopes students continue to seek out these interactions with the public.

“They’re developing an understanding about people across the state,” Chadwick says. “Why (people) might not have access to care, why they might not hold oral health as a high priority.”

Student recruitment is key

Some dental students are getting their first exposure to rural communities and small-town life during their fourth-year rotations. But wherever they come from, they’ve been carefully selected to meet the challenge and for their commitment to their state.

“We want students who are not only academically capable, but who also have excellent non-cognitive skills, the ability to develop relationships . . . establish rapport, to show compassion,” says Wilson, the associate dean. “Having the most gifted oral surgery skills doesn’t matter so much if you can’t relate to your patients.”

Wilson says the school has received approximately 400 applications a year for the school’s 50 student slots. East Carolina has become a destination for dental training, she says, and the mission appeals to prospective students.

Fourth-year student Kyle Duncan is one example.

“I feel like a big part of who I am is growing up here,” Duncan, a Bakersville native said at the opening of the dental center in Spruce Pine. “It’s just a special place for me. A lot of people drive to Asheville or Johnson City (in Tennessee) just to get a dentist appointment, and that certainly cuts down on the frequency of care. People will only go when something hurts, and that’s not good.”

Naylor says he could tell from his first visit to ECU that the school’s priorities matched his own.

“During my interview day at ECU I got the strong impression that the faculty here would help me become the type of dentist I wanted to be,” he says. “It seemed clear to me that the faculty did not just want to mill out a bunch of dentists for North Carolina. They wanted to have a facility where they could shape students into dental care providers who

wanted to make a difference in this state.”

Like UNC-Chapel Hill, East Carolina keeps tuition relatively low for dental students. The graduates will leave owing, on average, \$123,899, according to university figures. That compares to a national average of more than \$230,000, according to the American Dental Education Association. Less debt decreases the likelihood graduates will be forced to seek out more lucrative urban or specialty practices.

Private giving can also encourage students to choose rural practices. For instance, Duncan is the recipient of a full scholarship from the Samuel L. Phillips Family Foundation, awarded with the understanding he will return to western North Carolina to practice for five years.

It’s all part of the dental school’s formula—one that in many ways parallels the success of the Brody School of Medicine’s “grow your own” approach to training providers who will practice primary care in underserved areas.

“It’s harder and harder to get students to practice in rural areas,” N.C. Sen. Ralph Hise said at a recent community service learning center opening. “But there’s one institution in North Carolina that does it and does it well, and that’s East Carolina.”

Aligning with ECU’s mission

The university’s commitments are engrained in its School of Dental Medicine. The faculty members serve the state’s residents while training the next generation of dentists to do the same.

“Our mission is to provide public service, to be a national model for regional transformation,” says Chancellor Steve Ballard. “We have no better example of what East Carolina tries to do for regions . . . than these service learning clinics.”

Some students admitted are first-generation college students or have followed non-traditional paths to higher education. And they’re promised an excellent, technically advanced education, manifested in the strong performance of this first class of students on



Jay Clark

“The bonds formed between my classmates and professors will be some of the most treasured memories of my life. We spend so much time together; it truly is more of a family than a group of people you work with. Every struggle has been met with such great success, and it is all due to a great support system and such a wonderful caring group of people.”

—Maggie Pafford
Class of 2015

the National Board Dental Examination.

“There’s been a lot of excitement, a lot of lessons learned,” Chadwick says. “But we’re going to be graduating the next generation of dentists. This group has been pioneers as the school has developed.”

After graduation, Chadwick hopes the school can take a moment to catch its breath. Leaders need to make sure their model is developing in the most effective way. This includes ensuring patients continue to make their way to Ross Hall and the

service learning centers for treatment. And Chadwick sees numerous opportunities for research related to community health and primary care.

“Nobody realized what a big job this was going to be when we started it,” Chadwick says. “But this was a project that the people of eastern North Carolina needed—that the whole state needed.”

East

Doug Boyd and Amy Ellis contributed to this article.



A passion for the world

Jennifer Horsfall takes ECU's motto—*Servire*—to the global community

BY CRYSTAL BAITY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CÉSAR CORONA

It takes at least five fingers to count the cities and countries where East Carolina University alumna Jennifer Renquist Horsfall '03 has lived and worked.

Her passport includes stamps from Saudi Arabia, France, Turkey, the Dominican Republic and now Mexico, where the U.S. diplomat and foreign service officer's most recent assignment is in Mexico City. There, Horsfall embodies ECU's mission to serve.

"It expands your mind to be able to experience different cultures," she says.

In Mexico, Horsfall's work with the United States Agency for International Development supports the Merida initiative, a bilateral security agreement between the United States and Mexico. She leads crime- and violence-prevention efforts with a special emphasis on vulnerable communities and youth at risk of getting involved in illegal activity.

It's important because 50 percent of Mexico's population is under age 24. In the last decade, about 38 percent of homicide victims were youth. Fewer than half of students complete eighth grade. And in 2012, about 25 percent of youth were not employed or enrolled in school or training programs.

As a representative of the U.S. government, Horsfall meets regularly with colleagues in Mexico's government—at the federal, state and local levels—to coordinate ways to combat crime and violence. She also provides technical assistance for Mexico to plan, design and implement its own programs and develop public policies on crime prevention.

Horsfall and her team also work closely with private sector partners to increase resources and invest in crime-prevention programs that ultimately will be sustainable and impactful.

As part of her job, Horsfall often travels to the border where the majority of programs are being implemented in high-crime communities. She recently visited a Monterrey detention center for youth whose crimes ranged from petty theft and robbery to homicide.

“It was inspiring to hear from the young men who participate in our life skills program about how they are going to apply those skills to find jobs and have a better life when they leave the center,” Horsfall says. “We are trying to connect with these kids who often, due to the nature of their difficult family and community situations, find themselves turning to crime. We want to give them skills to make it easier for them to go back into their communities and be productive and dissuade them from re-engaging in criminal activity.”

Mexico matters to the U.S. not only because of its shared 2,000-mile border, but also because of strong economic, cultural and social ties.

While kidnappings, drug cartels, organized crime or illegal border crossings often make headlines, USAID—established by President John F. Kennedy in 1961—has had some success in its prevention efforts.

Since 2008, USAID/Mexico has dedicated close to \$50 million to support crime- and violence-prevention initiatives primarily on the U.S.-Mexico border in nine target communities in Ciudad Juarez, Monterrey and Tijuana.

Horsfall’s team manages several of the programs, where more than 30,000 at-risk youth have benefited from after-school enrichment and summer school, community engagement, vocational training and job placement initiatives. Six youth community centers have been established in Monterrey and Tijuana serving more than 5,000 children and their parents. A music program for youth ages 11-15 has led to a 25 percent increase in their GPAs. In Ciudad Juarez,



Horsfall, standing fifth from right, celebrates with youth who participated in an enrichment program focused on art, photography and music. The program was implemented in Monterrey, Mexico, by a local organization with funding from USAID, where Horsfall works as a crime-prevention advisor. She leads efforts with a special emphasis on vulnerable communities and youth at risk of getting involved in illegal activity. Since 2008, USAID/Mexico has dedicated close to \$50 million to support crime and violence prevention initiatives primarily on the U.S.-Mexico border in nine target communities in Ciudad Juarez, Monterrey and Tijuana. Horsfall’s work supports the Merida initiative, a bilateral security agreement between the United States and Mexico. Horsfall graduated magna cum laude from ECU in 2003.

more than 70 percent of graduates of the Youth: Work Mexico initiative between the ages of 18-26 have found gainful employment or returned to school.

Horsfall believes the programs are making a difference for youth to develop life and social skills, stay in school, find employment and ultimately avoid a life of crime and violence.

While the U.S. Embassy requires strict security protocol when Horsfall travels to border cities, she spends most of her time in Mexico City.

“Mexico City is a huge city but it is an incredible place to live with a wonderful art and music scene, a very active outdoor community and a ‘green’ city with many parks,” says Horsfall, who has run in several 5K races there. “Like any big city, you need to be aware of your surroundings and not put yourself at risk, but I feel very safe living here.”

Early international influences

Her interest in international development work was fostered from an early age. The oldest of six children, she grew up in Saudi Arabia, where her father worked in the oil industry.

At age 14, Horsfall left the Middle East for boarding school in Minnesota, her family’s home state. After graduation, she enrolled at the University of Minnesota. But soon after, her parents decided to move back to the United States, to North Carolina, near her mother’s sister in Wilmington. She transferred from Minnesota to ECU.

She enrolled in 1999, the same year as her younger brother, Donald “Allen” Renquist, also an ECU alumnus. He leads the Raleigh office of Stop Hunger Now, a hunger-relief organization that coordinates the distribution of food and other life-saving aid around the world.

“It was really fun to be there with my brother,” Horsfall says. “We’d tailgate with the best of them. We were Pirates.”

Her first year at ECU, Horsfall lived on the fourth floor of Clement Hall, where she met a core group of women who still stay in touch. She majored in international business, focusing on international marketing and law, and minored in French and political science. She studied in France for a semester.

“I think everyone should be required to learn a language, do a semester abroad or community service before they graduate college,” Horsfall says. “I wanted to graduate with a well-rounded background in an international field. At the same time, I wasn’t entirely sure whether I wanted to go into international business or foreign policy. If you look at my transcript, I actually graduated with close to twice as many credits as I needed.”

Horsfall says one of her professors, Tope Bello, was a tough instructor who challenged her, which she needed.

Bello, an ECU professor of management, taught Horsfall in his Management in a Global Economy course, where students develop a business proposal to extend operations of a U.S. company in a foreign location. The project is designed for students to include in a job search portfolio to show potential employers.

“We expect a lot from our international business majors,” Bello says. “I encourage them frequently to make sure that the totality of their work at ECU is something they will be proud of when they graduate.

“Like most of our international business majors, Jennifer was not only a brilliant student but she was also fun to be around,” Bello says. “She’s one of the few that took my advice about taking courses that they believe will help their careers even if it does not count towards their degree program.”

Daniel Masters, a visiting political science professor, also pushed Horsfall to get involved outside the classroom in international politics. One of those career-builders was

participation in ECU’s Model UN.

“We do learn from others,” Horsfall says. “We do learn when we open our mouth. All questions are good questions, and debating politics is kind of fun.”

After graduating magna cum laude at ECU in 2003, the same year as her brother, she traveled for a while before being offered a position in the sales and marketing division of Cintas Corp. in Clinton. The job introduced her to many parts of rural North Carolina, but she always intended to work and live overseas—and earn a master’s degree. Given her childhood in the Middle East and after learning about a new international human rights law program at American University in Cairo, Egypt, she applied and soon was on her way.

During graduate school, Horsfall worked at the university as a graduate teaching assistant in the law department where she became interested in refugee rights. She also worked with a local organization, AMERA (Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance), which offers pro bono legal aid to asylum-seekers and refugees in Cairo where little or none exists. “It was an incredible experience,” says Horsfall, who with the help of a translator would conduct interviews with refugees, mainly Sudanese fleeing to Cairo.

Horsfall also was president of a student organization, Student Action from Refugees, that worked with refugees offering services such as English classes and linking them to assistance with churches or other organizations in Cairo.

Horsfall’s experience working for and with grassroots organizations in Cairo “spawned my curiosity to get to D.C.,” she says. “I wanted to see how the United States government approached international development and humanitarianism.”

Career—and life—turns

She began work with PEPFAR, the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, dedicated to saving lives and combating HIV/AIDS around the world. The office

is the largest component of the president’s Global Health Initiative.

She learned about the interagency aspect of the job, and one of PEPFAR’s partner organizations—USAID.

“At the time, there was a big push to hire younger officers. I applied hoping I could serve as a foreign service officer and do development work,” Horsfall says. “That’s kind of how I fell into this current career. I’m very thankful for the opportunities I’ve had. It’s been very interesting to work in different countries, cultures and contexts.”

USAID is the lead U.S. government agency that focuses on international development. Officers work in more than 100 countries around the world. When Horsfall joined in 2008, she participated in an intense orientation and training that ended with a “flag ceremony,” where officers found out where they would be going.

“You had no idea before the ceremony where you would be, and it was a little nerve-racking even though we did swear an oath that we would serve anywhere in the world,” Horsfall says. Her first assignment was in the Dominican Republic. Since Spanish was needed to serve there, she spent several months learning Spanish and other job duties before leaving the United States.

That’s when she met her husband, Dan, a foreign service officer with the U.S. State Department. They served in the Dominican Republic for two years before being assigned for four years to Mexico.

They soon will be bidding on a new country. But the next move will include their son, Carder Joseph, who was born in March 2014 in Mexico City. He has dual citizenship and already has three passports: U.S. citizen, Mexican citizen and U.S. diplomat. “I’m looking forward to raising him overseas. I think it will give him a very good perspective of the world,” Horsfall says.

“I have no idea where we’ll go next,” she says. “Our life has changed because we’re parents now. But it’s all part of the experience.”

East

The graying of rural medicine

BY ECU NEWS SERVICES

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAY CLARK

As doctors in the East near retirement age, the Brody School of Medicine is preparing graduates to fill their shoes.

Drs. Charles Sawyer and Colin Jones at the Ahoskie Comprehensive Care Center





Dr. Beverly Edwards

Pediatrician Beverly Edwards '88 shakes her head when she thinks about retiring. "I don't want to, which is good because I can't afford to," she says with a smile.

She loves caring for her patients but says it's often a struggle to run Ahoskie Pediatrics, a solo practice she has owned for 24 years. She often worries about paying bills and making payroll for herself and her nine employees. In the middle of a Medicaid reimbursement crisis 18 months ago, she had to withdraw her life savings—\$400,000—and lend it to her practice to keep the doors open.

At 57, Edwards is on the younger end of a Baby Boomer bulge health policy leaders are watching anxiously. They are concerned that a statistically significant number of primary care doctors in the East are nearing retirement age at a time when most of them must work harder to get paid less under Medicaid and most private insurance policies.

Fortunately, East Carolina University's formula for recruiting students likely to stay in their home state to practice is ideal for taking on this challenge of replacing physicians who retire. According to 2014 data from the Association of American Medical Colleges, the school ranks at or above the 90th percentile among U.S. medical schools in the percentage of graduates practicing in rural areas (19.5), underserved areas (40.6), in the same state as the school (55), in primary care (41.8) and in family medicine (20).

And recent developments such as a \$1 million American Medical Association grant to remake medical education are adding to the ECU's toolbox for populating the East with physicians.

What's the matter?

Increasing the number of primary care doctors in North Carolina is a key component of the mission of the Brody School of Medicine, along with improving the health of eastern North Carolina's residents and improving access to a medical

education for minorities.

Addressing the issue of retiring doctors is one Brody is eager to take on, but it won't be fast or easy for a number of reasons.

"If we started today it would take a decade-and-a-half to get to where we might need to be," said Dr. Paul Cunningham, dean of the medical school.

Data compiled by the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill highlights this graying of rural medicine in the East:

- Primary care doctors here are older than doctors in the rest of the state. Statewide, 18 percent are 60 or older, and the average age is 48. East of Interstate 95, about 25 percent are 60 or older, and the average age is 51.2.
- Of the 15 counties in the state with the highest average age of primary care physicians, eight are east of I-95.

Officials say the situation is especially worrisome in northeastern counties. That region contains six of the 10 North Carolina counties that suffer from persistent physician shortages, according to the federal Health Resources and Services Administration.

So, there aren't nearly enough doctors to begin with in northeastern North Carolina, and half or more of them are aging out.

Cunningham practiced in rural Bertie County before joining the ECU faculty in the 1980s. He says he knows many of these older doctors still practicing in small towns across the region.

"Many of us who have served in rural areas ... are facing imminent retirement, and we need to consider the need for replacing them in these rural communities," Cunningham says. "Very soon, it will become more acute."

ECU's history shows it's ready to tackle the problem. More than half of the school's 2,200 graduates practice in the state, and nearly one in five does so in eastern North Carolina. Among all Brody graduates who

enter primary care, statistics show three-fifths of them are still doing primary care five years after graduation. No other medical school in the state comes close to that record.

But indications are more is needed to offset the numbers of older physicians leaving their practices.

Spending to keep practicing

Due to expenses Edwards incurred keeping her practice open as it shifted to a new electronic medical records system and online reimbursements—and the fact she had to withdraw her life savings to do that—she won’t be retiring anytime soon.

With the evolving economics in the medical marketplace, her type of solo practice isn’t alone in facing obstacles.

“Small practices are a dying breed,” says Tom Bacon of Chapel Hill, the longtime executive director of the N.C. Area Health Education Center program. “Used to, when a small-town physician retired, he could sell his practice to a young doc just out of medical school. That just simply isn’t happening anymore.”

Debt from medical school and lifestyle options force many young doctors into different choices, Bacon says. That creates a dilemma for many older doctors in rural communities; they can’t sell their practice, and it’s too expensive to hold on to it.

That’s one area where Brody has an advantage. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, ECU medical graduates on average leave school with \$85,877 in debt. That number seems staggering, but is lower than the average of 90 percent of the nation’s other medical schools.

Dr. James Peden, associate dean for admissions at the medical school, says he’s heard graduates say the low cost of their medical education allowed them to enter the specialty of their choice rather than feeling pressured to pursue a more lucrative medical career path that wasn’t as appealing to them.

Peden oversees an admissions committee made up of faculty physicians, basic scientists and medical school upperclassmen that populates the Brody rolls with students who believe in the school’s mission.

“Have they shadowed doctors, volunteered in clinics, seen what physicians do on a day-to-day basis?” Peden says of what committee members look for in applicants. In addition, rural roots point to the likelihood of returning to the small towns and country crossroads that lack adequate services.

“Our goal is to accomplish just that, provide care to the woefully underserved eastern region of the state,” Peden says.

Brody’s success in preparing primary care physicians for the state showed in this March’s annual National Residency Match Day. More than half of Brody’s 80-member Class of 2015 will be go into residencies in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics or OB/GYN. Of those, 10 will enter residencies at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville. ECU statistics show

that graduates who complete a residency in Greenville tend to stay in the region.

“It starts with our admissions process that reveals the students come from backgrounds that predict they are predisposed to practicing in smaller rural communities,” Dr. Elizabeth Baxley, senior associate dean for academic affairs and professor of family medicine, told the Greenville *Daily Reflector* newspaper at Match Day. “Their curriculum has them out the very first year into practices all around the state, and they get opportunities to work in rural areas and see the joys of working in smaller practices.”

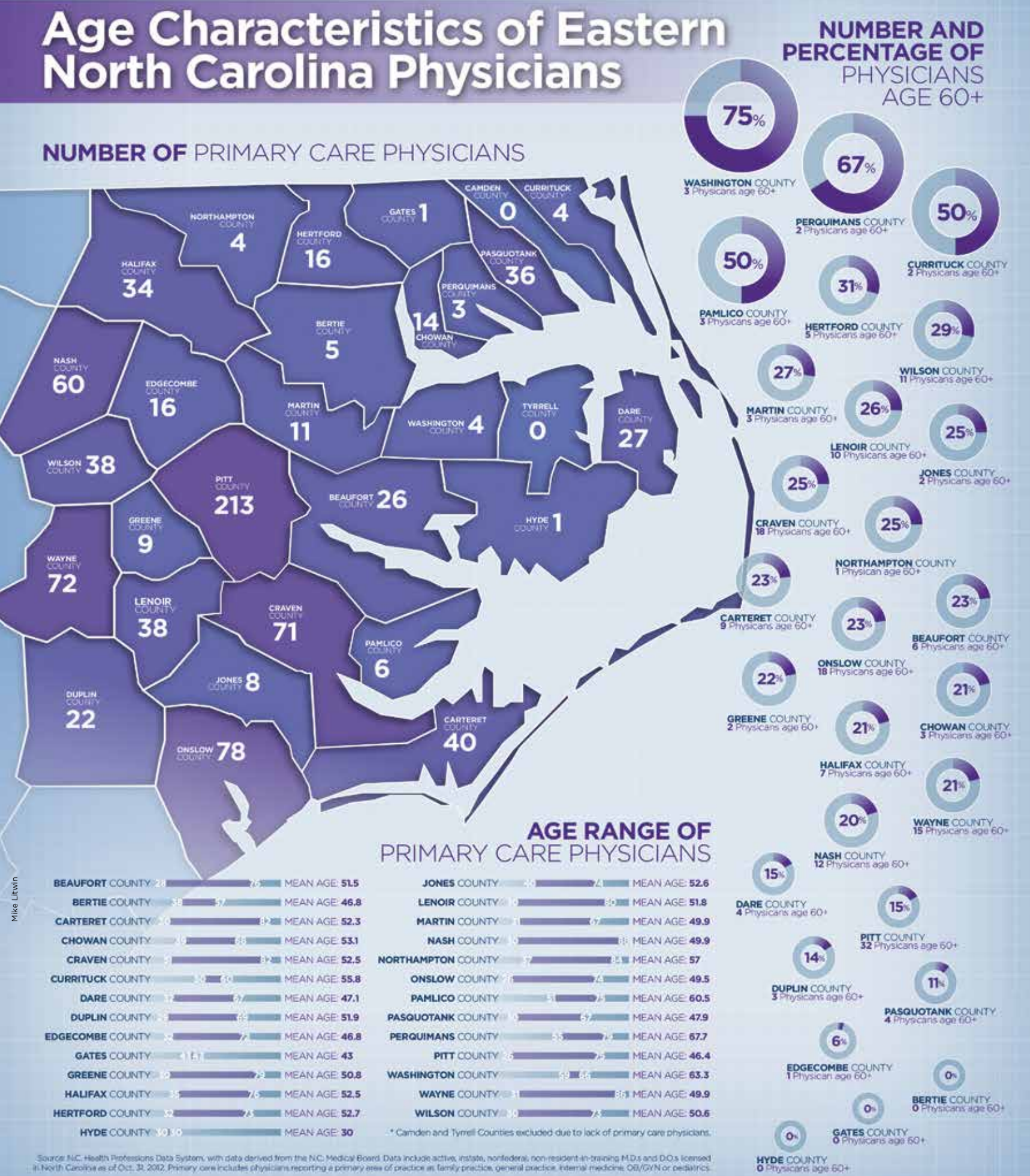
In addition to student recruitment, Brody is adding interprofessional educational opportunities where health sciences students learn to work as a team.

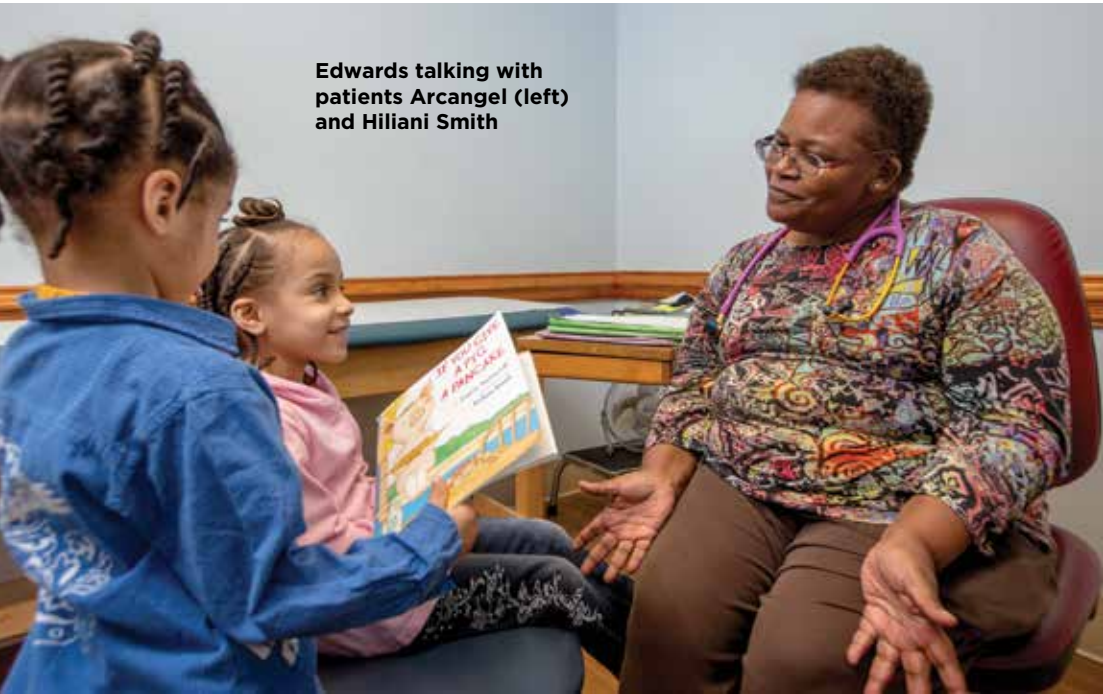
“We have a good recipe, and we know it works,” she told the newspaper.

Honoring a promise

Edwards is the younger of only two private-practice pediatricians in a county where

Brittany Carr is headed to a family medicine residency at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington. Doctors who complete residencies in the state tend to stay in the state, statistics show.





Edwards talking with patients Arcangel (left) and Hiliani Smith

26 percent of the 24,000 residents live in poverty. She knows it's unlikely that a young doctor will come to Ahoskie, buy her practice and secure her financial future.

What keeps her going is a promise she made back in 1984.

"When I interviewed with the dean (of the Brody School of Medicine), he asked me, 'If we admit you, will you promise to practice medicine in rural eastern North Carolina?' And I said, 'Yes I will.'"

Baxley says the projections on retiring doctors underscores why Brody must continue working to place physicians in the East.

Toward that end, ECU is one of 11 U.S. medical schools developing a new model for medical education as part of the AMA-funded project. The goal is to educate students about patient safety, quality improvement and team-based care along with new ways of teaching that engage students more actively in their own education.

"That's how most small-town practices are structured these days," Baxley says. "So if we can do more of that in their training, then I think all of our graduates—doctors, nurses, P.A.s, N.P.s—will feel more positive about

considering the option of practicing in a rural area."

In addition, medical students are joining dental, social work and nurse practitioner students in a College of Nursing grant program to integrate interprofessional education and expand the use of a virtual community clinic similar to what students will experience in the workplace after graduation.

New and upgraded facilities such as the Family Medicine Center, which opened in 2011, are also helping. With the ability to see more patients in a larger building, the diversity of people and their illnesses, injuries and conditions has grown, adding to educational opportunities for medical students and residents—and the appeal of pursuing a career in family medicine.

More is needed

Brody requires significant state support in order to sustain the preparation of primary care doctors, Chancellor Steve Ballard has said in presentations across the region about Brody and its impact. Its funding model, its mission and the population it serves have always demanded that support.

A number of factors place Brody in an unusual fiscal position. Unlike other academic medical centers in North Carolina, Brody does not own its hospital. Instead, it partners with Vidant Medical Center, a private, not-for-profit hospital, to provide a teaching setting for all health sciences disciplines, including medicine.

Brody also must keep tuition and costs low so graduates can afford to practice in small or underserved communities.

Finally, Brody serves a population that statistically ranks among the sickest and poorest in the nation.

State appropriations made up 53 percent of Brody's budget in 1990 compared to just 21 percent today. Shifts in Medicaid reimbursement policies also impact the school's budget disproportionately.

Brody has received national acclaim for producing graduates who choose to practice primary care medicine in North Carolina. Continuing to send those graduates into the region is paramount.

One of those is Brad Beamon of the Class of 2015. In July, he will begin a pediatrics residency at Vidant.

"My family is originally from Wilson, so I have experienced firsthand the value of care to patients in eastern North Carolina," he says. "Also, having done my undergraduate and medical school at ECU has deepened my love for the people in this region."

During a fourth-year medical rotation in Seattle, he found he missed the patients of eastern North Carolina.

"The combination of their need for medical education and care partnered with their gentle humanity as they tell you about their dog makes caring for the people of eastern North Carolina a joy and honor," he says. "This is my state, my people and, by God's grace, my responsibility."

East

Doug Boyd and Steve Tuttle contributed to this article.



Drs. Darlene Keene '83 '89 and Jamande Jones '10

Is this the new face of rural health care?

While Beverly Edwards and other small-town doctors struggle, a new model of delivering rural health care seems to be succeeding just a mile away at Roanoke-Chowan Community Health Center.

RCCHC is a full-service medical center with four locations and a staff of about 120 delivering primary care, pediatrics and behavioral care.

The center was founded in 2005 and moved into its current facility in 2012, paid for with a \$6.2 million federal grant. With a pharmacy in the lobby, the building's beside the ECU dental community service learning center.

A not-for-profit led by a volunteer board, RCCHC serves Hertford and surrounding counties and accepts patients regardless of their ability to pay.

In addition to its Ahoskie campus, RCCHC has clinics in Murfreesboro and in Colerain in Bertie County. It also operates a student health center at Hertford County Middle School. All the clinics usually are open evening hours, and some see patients on Saturdays.

RCCHC is one of 34 federally qualified health centers in North Carolina. These centers receive funding under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act and qualify for higher reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid, as well as other benefits.

The center recently received a \$250,000 grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to expand its mental health services.

FQHCs must serve an underserved area or population, offer a sliding fee scale, provide comprehensive services, have an ongoing quality-assurance program and have a governing board of directors.

North Carolina's 34 FQHCs operate nearly 180 rural health clinics that treated about 470,000 patients in 2013. A dozen of these community health care centers are based east of Interstate 95 and operate about 80 clinics.

CEO Kim Schwartz says a key to RCCHCs success is a financial and organizational structure that allows providers to avoid back-office hassles and earn a decent income while caring for people

in one of the poorest counties in the nation.

That's what attracted Chief Medical Officer Colin Jones and the three other older doctors now on the RCCHC staff. They were in private practice together in Ahoskie and got fed up with the problems of owning and managing a rural practice. They became the founding staff of RCCHC when it opened.

"Now, I don't have to think at all about running a business. I can concentrate everything on my patients," he says.

Officials say the positive aspects of practicing at a center such as RCCHC eliminate a big negative that young doctors often perceive about rural medicine—being isolated and unsupported.

This structure recently helped attract three Brody pediatricians to the RCCHC staff. Drs. Darlene Keene '83 '89 and Jamande Jones '10 practice mainly at the Ahoskie facility. Dr. Geniene Jones '10 practices at the Murfreesboro clinic, where she's helping take some of the caseload of the clinic's senior physician, Dr. Mike Alston '75. Jamande and Geniene Jones are married.

"I wanted to serve the children and families of this underserved area of North Carolina," said Jamande Jones. "The demographics of this area add additional barriers to receiving adequate health care services."

Keene is a native of Ahoskie, so RCCHC is allowing her to live her dream and pay the rent. "This place is home to me, and I am so pleased to be back and providing pediatric care to the area," she says.

"I don't think bigger is necessarily better when it comes to delivering good health care in a rural community," Schwartz says. "But having a deeper talent pool, more modern facilities and easier access to funding, that does make a difference."

Schwartz says RCCHC is not in competition with small-town doctors such as Edwards. She says it makes her sad when she hears about any medical practice closing.

"But this is such a different day, such a different time," she says, "and we must move into a new future."

—Steve Tuttle

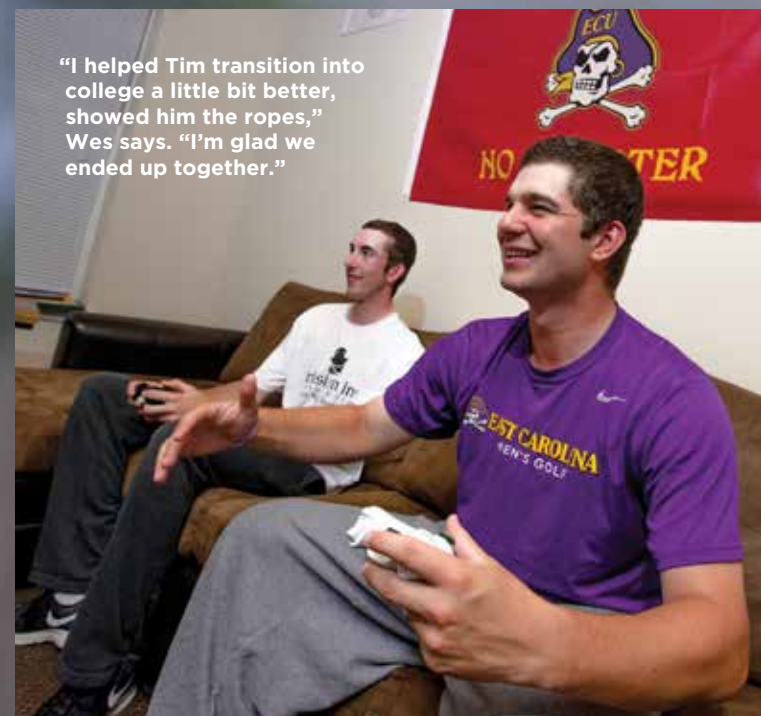
Two under par

The Conover brothers took different courses to golf success, but both led to ECU.

BY DOUG BOYD

PHOTOGRAPY BY JAY CLARK

Tim and Wes Conover



"I helped Tim transition into college a little bit better, showed him the ropes," Wes says. "I'm glad we ended up together."



Wes Conover

On a February day cold enough to make fingers shiver, East Carolina University golfers Tim and Wes Conover are hitting balls, honing their games for the spring season.

They've taken different paths to this point. Younger brother Tim, a freshman, has been playing since he was big enough to hold a club. Wes was a baseball star before picking up clubs as a teenager and trying to get good enough to beat his kid brother.

"I taught him some things," Tim says matter-of-factly.

"So far this year, I'd say I've gotten to him a little bit," responds Wes, a junior. That's modest coming from a player who was the conference newcomer of the year after the 2013-2014 season.

The Conovers are one of a handful of brothers to play together on the men's golf

team, and while they wanted to beat each other when they were younger, they're each other's biggest fans now.

"It's a really interesting dynamic," says coach Press McPhaul. He met Wes while recruiting Tim and offered Wes a spot on the team as well. "I've never had brothers on a team before and didn't know what to expect. I think they're a positive influence on each other. I haven't been able to detect any rivalry between them.

"I think he's got a pretty remarkable set of God-given gifts not only physically but mentally as well," he says of Wes. "And Tim is one of the best putters you've ever seen," he added about the time Tim made a 20-footer on the practice green.

Growing their games

When the family lived in New Jersey, Tim

would practice on the putting green at a local public course. "We would shine the headlights of our car to give him light in the dark," his mother, Jackie, recalls. "He wouldn't leave until he chipped one in."

Then about eight years ago, the family moved to a golf course community in Holly Springs in Wake County when their father took a new job. Living beside a course gave Tim a chance to practice every day. His skills improved quickly, and soon

he was winning junior tournaments.

Older brother Wes stuck with other sports but would go with Tim every once in a while to the golf course.

"That's when we both started going together," Wes says. "That's when I was playing with him and not against him. Tim was kind of my mentor. He taught me to play golf, honestly."

His brother agrees. "He's a really good athlete, so he already had the basic skills to play any sport," Tim says. "I definitely saw his skills in golf coming together."

Tim was a four-year letterman on the golf team at Holly Springs High School. He was twice named the Tri-9 4A Conference Player-of-the-Year. In 2012, he played in the U.S. Junior Amateur Championship and in 2013 won the Carolinas PGA

Junior Championship.

Wes caddied for Tim at that U.S. Junior Amateur tournament in Stratham, New Hampshire. "I think I get more nervous as a caddy than when I'm playing," he says with a laugh.

In his first year of college golf, Tim has been a regular starter on the four-man rotation; his lowest 18-hole score is 70, which he shot at tournaments in South Carolina and Chapel Hill. He led the team's opening round in the first two matches of 2015.

Tim's high school golf coach, Sam Greene, has plenty of praise for the brothers on and off the course. "They were good students, someone any teacher would want in the classroom," he says. "Pick a sport, pick a situation, their attitude is unbelievable. You can count on it."

Greene recalls the state 4A championships Tim's ninth-grade year. The rounds were played in Pinehurst, the heart of North Carolina's golf community. Tim's shot a 78 the first day, putting himself far out of reach of the leaders. He didn't get down, however, and returned the next day to shoot a 72. He didn't win, Greene says, "but I told him, 'Look how many people you passed.'"

That experience was valuable for Tim. "I was young, so it was really nice to do that in a big tournament," he says. "It gave me confidence."



Tim Conover

"If the golf course could be lit, he'd probably play all night."

—Sam Greene, Tim's high school coach

Before long, Greene says, someone told him about Tim's older brother, who by that time had started playing weekend golf tournaments and was doing pretty well.

"They said, 'Well, you know, Tim's brother, Wes, is just as good if not better,'" Greene says. "I said, 'Really? Can I see this guy?'"

Once he did see him play, Greene thought

about how much Wes could help his golf team. "I was always asking the baseball coach, 'Can I have Wes for just a couple of matches?'" Greene says with a laugh, mentioning the blank spot on his office wall where he believes a state championship plaque would be if Wes had played for him.

Since the baseball and golf seasons were at the same time of year, Wes never did join the golf team. But by the time he graduated in 2011, he had lettered four times on the baseball team, was a three-time all-conference player, a member of the 2011 4A state championship team and a team captain. He also played a season of varsity basketball.

His high school baseball coach, Rod Whitsell, described him as a "great kid, works hard, hard-nosed." He's not surprised that when he turned to golf, he got very good very fast.



The 2015 American Athletic Conference Golf Championship is April 26-28 at the Black Diamond Ranch Quarry Course in Lecanto, Florida (above). The NCAA Regional Championship is May 14-16 at various sites, and the national championship is May 29-June 3 at Concession Golf Club in Bradenton, Florida.

“I think he enjoyed the camaraderie and competition of a team sport,” Whitsell said. “I’m sure some of that competitive fire he had in baseball carried over into golf.”

Whitsell describes a time in practice before a playoff game when Conover misplayed a ground ball and it hit his face, breaking his nose. “He had a huge knot on his head and showed up the next day ready to play,” the coach said. “He’s mentally tough, physically tough. He’s just got that attitude of no matter what happens I’m going to find a way to win. East Carolina’s lucky he switched sports.”

A fast start

Wes came to ECU in the summer of 2013 and immediately became a starter for the 2013-2014 golf season. Before coming to Greenville, he had been a member of the club golf team at N.C. State University and a student in that school’s professional golf management program. In his first year with the Pirates, he posted the second-lowest scoring average on the team, 74.29. He was named Conference USA Newcomer-of-the-Year and twice was named conference golfer-of-the-week.

The first weekly award followed his play at the Sea Best Invitational at TPC Sawgrass in Pointe Vedra Beach, Florida—the course where the PGA Tour holds its Players

Championship. There, he carded an ECU-career-best 5-under 67 in the final round.

He received his second weekly accolade after capturing individual medalist honors for the first time, winning the 2014 River Landing Intercollegiate in Wallace with a 4-under-par 212 over the three rounds.

McPhaul thinks Wes’ experience playing baseball, where a 40 percent success rate at the plate is amazing, helps him handle the ups and downs of golf, where every shot counts.

Wes agrees. “Playing baseball, you get to learn to deal with failure a lot,” he says. “I think it’s easier to hit the golf ball, but in golf, you have so much time to think about all the things you’re doing wrong.”

He says the 67 at Sawgrass is his most memorable round. “I could see the players on the holes I was playing” he said, referring to tour pros such as Rory McIlroy and Tiger Woods. “That round kind of showed me I’m supposed to be here playing college golf.”

While the 67 stands out, his best-ever round is a 63 at a course in Gulf Shores, Alabama. That’s also Tim’s best score; he shot it at Devil’s Ridge in Holly Springs.

Wes says his favorite course is Sawgrass. Tim’s favorite is Trump National Golf Club in Sterling, Virginia.

An athletic lineage

Tim and Wes come from a sports family. Their father, Barry, played college basketball at Green Mountain College in Vermont, an uncle played college basketball, and four cousins played Division I baseball. Their grandfather, Dick, played three seasons of basketball at Syracuse University and also coached college basketball.

McPhaul believes the coaching background of their grandfather is an important ingredient of the brothers’ success.

“That familiarity with competing and competing in college and being aware that you have work to do, responsibilities to teammates and academic requirements—being familiar with that is nothing but a help,” the coach says.

He recalls one day their father asked if it would be OK if he gave the brothers some advice. He told McPhaul what he wanted to say, and the coach readily agreed.

“No lame excuses, and don’t spiral downward,” McPhaul says with a smile.

Teammate Josh Chandler says having a brother of his own who plays golf helps him appreciate the bond between the Conovers.

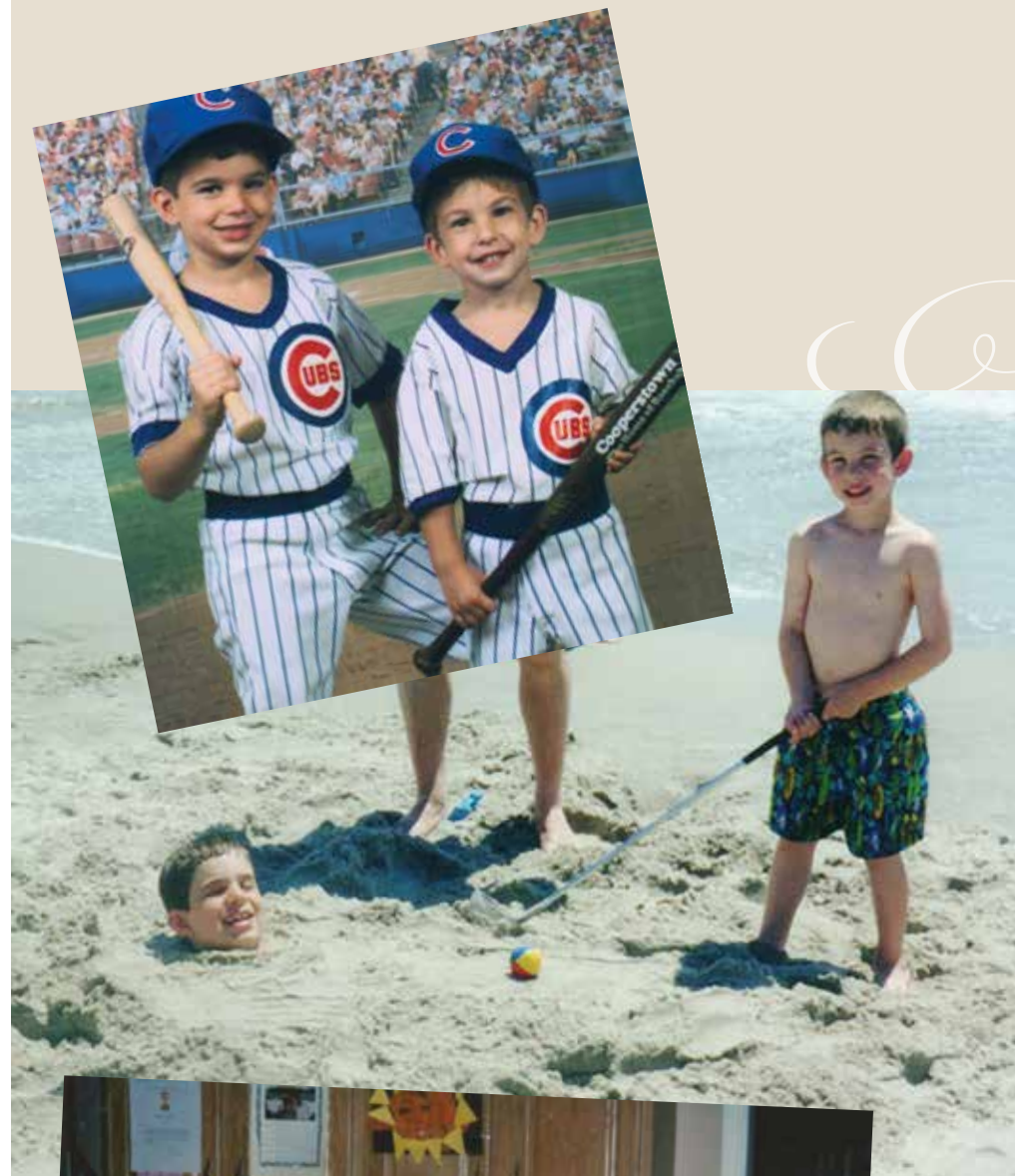
“We all form sort of a brotherhood being teammates, and I’m sure it’s a little more special for them,” he said.

A communication major, Wes plans to pursue professional golf with broadcasting as a fallback. Tim’s majoring in applied atmospheric sciences and wants to be a meteorologist once his golfing days conclude.

As the brothers take a break from practice, they talk about their plans to attempt to qualify for the U.S. Amateur championship this summer and how much fun it is to be teammates in college.

“All we ever tried to do growing up was beat each other,” Wes says. “Now we’re out here competing against each other. Not everybody gets to be out here with your brother.”

East



Family photos courtesy Jackie Conover

Their parents’ perspective

Jackie Conover sent the following email, lightly edited, summing up how she and her husband, Barry, feel about their sons playing golf at ECU:

“(W)e are beyond thrilled that they are in school together and playing together. We think in the next year-and-a-half they will do great things together for ECU. It makes it easier for us and it is really fun going to watch them, especially when they are right behind one another.

“To us, golf is one of the hardest sports to watch your child play though. It is an emotional roller coaster on every hole. We love the coaches at ECU, and the boys’ teammates are a great group of boys.

“From the time they were walking, they were always playing sports...they had great hand-eye coordination from a couple of months old. Wes was walking at 8 months old, and they would play every sport possible in our basement with their dad with sports on TV every day.”



ECU-trained scientists discover Battle of the Atlantic shipwrecks

Two East Carolina University alumni were the principal investigators in the October discovery of two shipwrecks from an important World War II naval battle off the North Carolina coast.

Joe Hoyt '04 '08 and John Bright '08 '12 led a team of divers and scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in identifying the remains of the freighter Bluefields and the German submarine that sank it. Hoyt and Bright are recent graduates of ECU's master's in underwater archaeology program.

The ships went down July 15, 1942, about 30 miles off Cape Hatteras during the storied Battle of the Atlantic phase of the war. Their discovery culminated a five-year-long NOAA project to survey and document vessels lost during WWII off the North Carolina coast.

ECU and the UNC Coastal Studies Institute were partners in the

project with NOAA and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. Nathan Richards, an associate professor in ECU's maritime studies program, and ECU students assisted Hoyt and Bright.

"It was pretty exciting," Hoyt said about the discovery. "I was really happy for John because he had worked on (new mapping technology used to detect such underwater artifacts) as part of his master's thesis. We have been working on this for five years, and having all that work pay off is a

great feeling—it's hard to describe."

The Bluefields was in a group of 19 merchant ships being escorted by the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard from Norfolk, Virginia, to Key West, Florida, to deliver cargo to aid the war effort. The German submarine U-576 attacked the convoy, sinking the Bluefields and severely damaging two other ships. U.S. Navy Kingfisher aircraft then bombed the U-576.

The crew of the Bluefields was rescued without any casualties. The 45-man crew of U-576 was lost.

Efforts to locate the shipwrecks were the focus of a 2013 National Geographic TV documentary, *Hitler's Secret Attack on America*.

"This is not just the discovery of a single shipwreck," said Hoyt, a NOAA sanctuary scientist. "These two ships rest only a few hundred yards apart and together help us interpret and share their forgotten stories."

The discovery is a window into the underwater battlefield landscape of WWII, said David Alberg, superintendent of NOAA's Monitor National Marine Sanctuary.

"Most people associate the Battle of the Atlantic with the cold, icy waters of the North Atlantic," Alberg said. "But few people realize how close the war actually came to America's shores."

Hoyt said it should not be surprising that ECU played a key role in the discovery. "The ECU diving program is one of the best there is in the country, the world even," he said.

—Steve Tuttle



John Bright, left, and Joe Hoyt

Bring the Whole Crew!

The East Carolina Alumni Association has started a new series of family and social events called "Bring the Whole Crew." The focus will be on organizing Pirate gatherings at sporting events, theme parks and more. Open to alumni, students and family members, the goal is to provide opportunities for Pirates to get together in addition to networking events and football tailgates. More information is available online at PirateAlumni.com or by contacting Megan Howard '07, assistant director of alumni programs, at 252-328-5557 or howardme14@ecu.edu. She's also taking suggestions for future events.

May 30 Williamsburg Winery, Williamsburg, Va.

June 20 Jungle Rapids Family Fun Park, Wilmington, N.C.

July 18 ECU Day at the U.S. National Whitewater Center, Charlotte, N.C.

Aug. 29 ECU Night at the Carolina Mudcats, Zebulon, N.C.

Pirate Sendoffs

Each summer, the East Carolina Alumni Association hosts a series of Pirate Sendoff events to welcome students to ECU. Incoming freshmen, transfer students and their families are invited to attend a Pirate Sendoff in their city where they can meet and talk with fellow Pirates as they prepare to come to campus. Alumni are invited to attend and share their ECU experiences and advice. These events are free for students; prices for family members and guests will vary depending on the location. More information is available at PirateAlumni.com/PirateSendoffs.

Photo courtesy Alexandria News



Tynita Butts '13, the record-setting high jumper on the ECU track and field team who won the Penn Relays twice and was named an NCAA All-American six times, was inducted into her high school's sports hall of fame. The ceremony was held Dec. 8 at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Virginia.

Butts majored in sociology with a concentration in marriage and family relations. She is working at an athletic clothing retailer in Washington, D.C., while pursuing professional sports.



Former East Carolina University soccer star **Hali Oughton '13** was interviewed by the media many times during her college career. Now she's the one holding the microphone as a reporter for the American Athletic Conference. Oughton hosts the American's weekly Web video show, *The Rise*.

Oughton travels to film episodes on the campuses of the 11 conference members. "It's funny how things work out," she said. "I get to work with my alma mater on a day-to-day basis as well as schools I have previously competed against on the soccer field when we were in Conference USA."

2014

Jessica Chirico is a communications assistant with the American Benefits Council, Washington, D.C. **Alex Sugg** is the 4-H agent for Lenoir County Cooperative Extension.

2013

Brittany Anne Beck wed Dr. **Jordan Hayward Talley** '09 on June 14 on the beach at the Resort at Longboat Key Club, Longboat Key, Fla. The wedding party included **Elizabeth Beck**

'06, **Jen Kurowicki** '10, **Dena Mazie** '08 and **Jason Talley** '09, brother of the groom. She works for Wells Fargo Bank, Bradenton, Fla. He is interning at Manatee Memorial Hospital, Bradenton, Fla. Army Spc. **Allen Reardon** graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, S.C. Army Spc. **Patrick Roy** graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, S.C.

2012

Jessica Lynette Beasley wed Johnson McKinley York on

Oct. 4 at Moore's Springs Manor, Westfield. She is a second-grade teacher at Petree Elementary School, Winston-Salem. **Samuel McCormick Byrum** wed Lindsay Neal Eason on April 26 at Archdale United Methodist Church, Archdale. The wedding party included Dr. **Graham Vance Byrum III** '08, brother of the groom. He is an associate wealth management advisor. **Jordan Leigh Page** wed **Christopher Aaron Fortune** on Nov. 8 at Fellowship United Methodist Church, Hamlet. The

PITT COUNTY TEACHERS HONORED

Steve Lassiter '04 '10, Pactolus School principal, is Pitt County Schools' Principal of the Year.

Paul Briney '05 '08 '12, Lakeforest Elementary School, is Pitt County Schools' Assistant Principal of the Year.

Jami Dickerson, third-grade teacher at Eastern Elementary School, Greenville, is the 2013-14 Pitt County Teacher of the Year.

Elementary school teacher-of-the-year winners: **Jennifer Gillikin** '97 '00, Wintergreen Intermediate School; **Allyson Hunter** '08, Ayden Elementary School; **Jessica Malinauskas** '12, Lakeforest Elementary; **Vanessa Sasser** '99 '07, Wintergreen Primary School; **Kenneth Smith** '10, Sam D. Bundy Elementary School and **Kimberly Montriala Sutton** '99, Belvoir Elementary School. K-8 school teacher of the year winners: **Ashley Davis** '08, Bethel School; **Ashley Causey** '06, Stokes School; **Melvinna Culpepper Wiggins** '08, G.R. Whitfield School and **Tonya Williams** '91 '92, Chicod School.

Middle school teacher of the year winners: **Talia King Edwards** '09, Ayden Middle School; **Shannon Maloney** '94, Hope Middle School and **Kayla Anne Walker** '10, Farmville Middle School.

High school teacher of the year winners: **Kimberly Fain** '91, North Pitt High School; **Eric Sawyer** '93, D.H. Conley High School; **Will Tyer** '03 '09, Ayden-Grifton High School and **Ira Varney** '99, South Central High School.

THE GREAT 100 NURSES

The following Vidant Medical Center nurses were recognized in the 2014 list: **Rhonda Argenbright** '80, **Linda Hofler** '87 '07, **Dianne Marshburn** '77 '86 '07, **Katrina Raley** '06, **Rebecca Ross** '96 '03, **Alethia Shepherd** '01 '12 and **Belinda Washington** '03. **Diane Bell** '80 was recognized as a N.C. Great 100 Nurse. She works at Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital, Greensboro.

wedding party included **Hannah Fortune** '14 and **Brittany Pearce**. She teaches at Leland Middle School, Leland, and he works at N.C. State Employees Credit Union, Wilmington. **Hunter L. Peyton** was promoted to market leader with BB&T in Greenville. **Samantha Beth Salek** wed **Joshua Keith Genes** on Nov. 15 at The Atrium, Wilmington. The wedding party included **Ryan Hamilton Wiggins** '10. She works for The Channel Company, Raleigh. He is a student at ECU and employed by United Parcel Service, Wilmington, and the U.S. Coast Guard Reserves, Wrightsville Beach.

2011

Allyson Edge, school counselor at Arendell Parrott Academy, Kinston, was certified as a counselor through the National Board for Certified Counselors Inc. **Britney Caitlin Gold** wed **Justin Bradley Perry** on July 26 at Adaville Baptist Church, Spindale. The wedding party included **Alexandria Conerly Moseley** and **Nicholas Andrew Riseden**. **Jessica Elizabeth Redford** '11 '13 wed Justin Paul Boone on Oct. 11 at Stonewall Manor, Rocky Mount. She is a financial analyst at Nucor Steel Hertford County, Cofield.

2010

Karen Lorraine Braddy wed **Joel Brent Stocks** '09 '11 on July 19 at Second Baptist Church, Washington. The wedding party included **Brooke Atkins**, **Susan Braddy** '12, sister of the bride, **Marti Irwin** and **Amy McCutcheon**. In Greenville, she is a registered nurse at Physicians East, and he is a senior audit associate and CPA at Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP.

Jonathan Scott Dixon received his law degree from N.C. Central University, passed the N.C. State Bar examination and joined his father, **Phillip R. Dixon** '71, and brother, Phillip R. Dixon Jr., in the Dixon Law Group, Greenville.

Ashleigh Brooks Joyner wed **Bennison Jacob Gardner** '09 on Aug. 9 at Yankee Hall Plantation, Greenville. The wedding party included **Stephen Anthony** '02, **Chas Cohn** '09, **Mary-Hannah Evans** '09, **Daniel Hopkins** '09, **Steven Jacobs** and **Jeremy Martin**. She is a tax associate at Michael V. Joyner & Co., CPA. He is an operations manager at SILVERcare. **Danielle Marie Raymond** wed **Daniel Everett Lee** '11 on Oct. 5, 2013, at St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, Apex. The wedding party included **Kelli Magaw**. She is a nurse in labor and delivery at Rex Healthcare, Raleigh. He is an engineer at Novartis Vaccines, Holly Springs.

Ron Sessoms, a planner and urban designer, was promoted to associate at Rhodeside & Harwell, Alexandria, Va.

Sarah Kathleen Smith '10 '14 wed Stuart Alexander Gay on Aug. 23 at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Raleigh. The wedding party included **Margaret Carole Roman** '09 '10 and **Emily Parker Smith** '04 '12. She is a marketing coordinator with North State Bank, Raleigh. Army Spc. **Ian H. Stevens** graduated from basic combat training at Fort Benning, Ga. **Eric Talley** is a superintendent with Imperial Design Builders, Fuqua-Varina. **Jessi Twisdale** is catering and conference services manager at the Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club, Durham.

2009

Jeanette Nunnery is the 2014-15 Sampson County Exceptional Children's Teacher of Excellence. She teaches the occupational course of study at Lakewood High School, Salemburg. **Zach Wade** is an agent and property manager based in the West Ashley office of Southern Shores Real Estate Group, Charleston, S.C.

2008

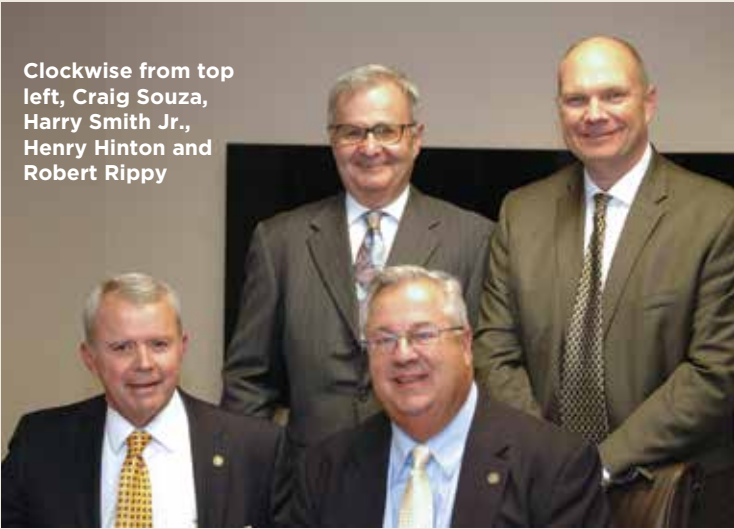
Katherine Clyde was promoted to dean of Pitt Community College's business division. She was the division's curriculum coordinator the past two years.

Dwight Dockery is director of the Greenville Choral Society Concert Choir. He is director of the Wesleyan Singers at N.C. Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount and academic adviser in ECU's School of Music. **Keri Dawn Goss** wed Justin Charles Newsome on Aug. 23 at Merritt Barn, Siloam. **Candace Jones** received the Young Alumnus Service Award from Louisburg College, where she is director of Robbins Library. **Margaret Virginia Williams** '08 '09 wed **Andrew Bennett Keasler** on Nov. 8 at Wrightsville United Methodist Church, Wrightsville Beach. She is a CPA in the Raleigh office of Ernst & Young.

continued on page 48

Four East Carolina alumni—believed to be the most ever—are serving on the 32-member University of North Carolina Board of Governors. The board is the policy-making body charged with managing and governing the 16-campus UNC system. Their terms run through 2017.

Craig Souza '71 of Raleigh chairs the board's Educational Planning, Policies and Programs Committee. Souza previously served three terms on the Board of Governors from 1997-2009 and was its co-chair. He is president of the N.C. Healthcare Facilities Association, which represents more than 380 licensed nursing homes in the state. He served two terms on the ECU Board of Trustees and was chair from 1993-95. As a student, he was a Pi Kappa Alpha, served on the Men's Judiciary Council and was active in SGA.




Clockwise from top left, Craig Souza, Harry Smith Jr., Henry Hinton and Robert Rippy

Harry Smith Jr. '92 of Greenville chairs the influential Budget and Finance Committee. He is vice chairman of the board at Flanders Corp. in Washington, North Carolina, and a retired CEO of the company. Flanders is one of the world's largest

manufacturers and distributors of air filters. A director of the Pirate Club, Smith made a \$1 million donation toward construction of ECU's new basketball practice facility, now known as the Smith-Williams Center. He is married to **Tammy Painter Smith** '92.

Henry Hinton '76 of Greenville serves as secretary of the Public Affairs Committee and is a member of the University Governance Committee. Hinton is president of Inner Banks Media, which owns four FM radio stations. He hosts the popular morning show *Talk of the Town*, which airs on 103.7 WTIB. He is a former president of the N.C. Association of Broadcasters and a former chair of the Greenville-Pitt Chamber of Commerce. He is vice chair of the ECU Foundation and is married to **Debbie Everett Hinton** '75.


Robert S. Rippy '75 '96 of Wilmington serves on the Public Affairs and University Governance committees. A Phi Kappa Tau brother, Rippy is owner of Jungle Rapids Family Fun Park. He is a former member of the ECU Board of Visitors, the ECU Foundation and the Cape Fear Community College Foundation. He is married to **Jennifer Rippy** '73.



PIRATE CLUB™

OBX - March 31
Jacksonville - April 8
Craven County - April 9
Pitt County - April 15
Nash/Edgecombe - April 16
Lee/Chatham/Moore - April 27
Wake County - April 29

Cape Fear - April 30
Lumberton / Fayetteville - May 4
Beaufort - May 5
Greensboro - May 13
Charlotte - May 14
Carteret - May 18



ARMADA

Don't miss the boat...Be sure to stop by your nearest Armada and get the inside scoop from your ECU Coaches and Administrators.

Colleagues raising money to honor Walter Pories

Friends, colleagues and former medical students of Dr. Walter Pories are raising funds to establish a distinguished professorship in his name at the Brody School of Medicine at ECU.

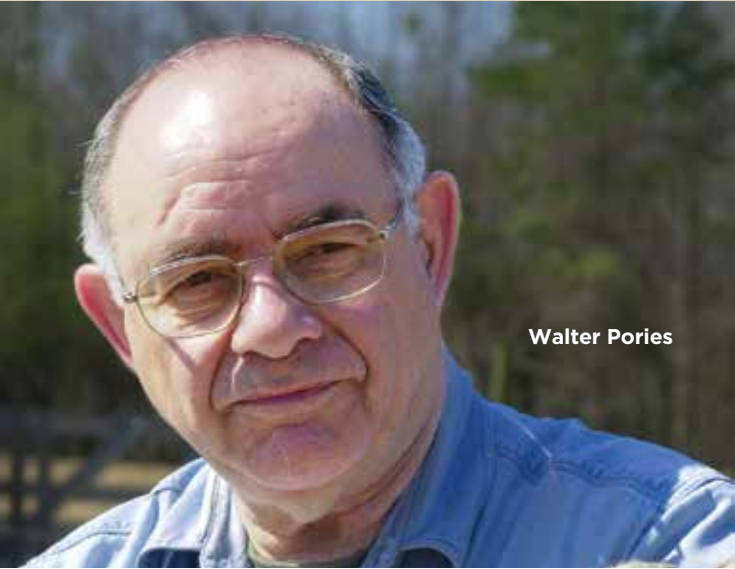
The goal is to raise \$333,000 that may be matched with \$167,000 from the N.C. Distinguished Professorship Matching Grant Program to create a \$500,000 endowment, said Dr. Paul Camnitz, a Greenville physician and one of the fundraising committee co-chairs.

Since fundraising began in March, about \$187,871 had been raised by mid-December, Camnitz said.

Pories is widely known for the “Greenville gastric bypass,” a surgical procedure he pioneered and is now the standard of care for bariatric surgery. That laid the groundwork for ECU to be known nationally and internationally for obesity-related research and clinical practice.

“Dr. Pories is a leader and educator who paves the way for his colleagues and students to reach their full potential,” Camnitz said. “He uses a combination of humor, common sense and analytical thought to get to the bottom of any problem.”

Pories, 83, leads Brody’s Bariatric Surgery Research Group. He joined the medical school faculty in 1977 as the first chair of the Department of Surgery.



Walter Pories

He is a professor of surgery, biochemistry and kinesiology.

Pories received the ECU Lifetime Achievement Award for Research and Creative Activity for his discovery decades ago that zinc is an essential element for animals and plants, an advance that led to sharp improvements in animal feeds and nutritional supplements for patients.

In 2013, he was awarded the John

P. McGovern Compleat Physician Award for his work with diabetes and gastric bypass surgery.

For more information or to contribute to the fund, contact Kathy Brown at 252-744-6265 or through email at brownka@ecu.edu.

Scholarship for communication disorders students

Grace Williams Ceruzzi of North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, has chosen to establish a scholarship fund in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders to honor her husband, **Frank Ceruzzi** ’50. He retired as administrator of Grand Strand General Hospital. A speech pathologist, Grace Ceruzzi worked with children with communication disorders for 49 years. The scholarships will go to students concentrating in assistive technology learning.

of the Year in Spartanburg (S.C.) School District Three.

2000

Lance Edwards, community investment director at the United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County, was elected to the board of the N.C. Center for Nonprofits. **Brendan Lynch** received the Distinguished MBA Alumnus Award from Palm Beach Atlantic University, Palm Beach, Fla. He is an agent and owner of The Plastridge Insurance Agency and serves on the board of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County. Ret. Col. **Tommy Macon**, assistant superintendent for academics and student services in Sampson County Schools, is District 13 Administrator of the Year for the N.C. Association of Educational Office Professionals. **Jennifer Coleman Nixon** is executive director of the Reidsville Area Foundation. She was executive director of the Rockingham County Healthcare Alliance.

worker at Charterhouse Day School, Richmond, Va.

1996

Charles “Chuck” Mumpower, executive director of data quality for Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, earned a doctorate in education from Wingate University. He is married to **Amy Clark Mumpower** ’97. They have three children and reside in Wesley Chapel.

1994

Wendy Walston Achilles is associate professor of accounting at Pfeiffer University, Charlotte. She is a certified public accountant.

1993

Monique Hicks ’93 ’02 ’09 is principal of the School of Executive Leadership and Entrepreneurial Development at Olympic High School, Charlotte. She was director of secondary education in the Gates County Public Schools in Gatesville. **Lance Metzler** was

1992

The late **Rudolph Knight** ’92 ’99 of Tarboro was inducted into the Twin County Hall of Fame, honoring citizens of Nash and Edgecombe counties. He was the first African-American professional hired by Edgecombe Community College. **Allen Thomas**, mayor of Greenville, was elected to serve on the executive committee of the N.C. Metropolitan Mayors Coalition, a bipartisan group representing the mayors of the state’s larger cities.

He is a CPA at his own practice, D. Keasler PLLC, Raleigh.

2007

Scott Baker is vice president for information technology at Southwestern Community College, Sylva. He was dean of career technologies there. **John Davison “Jay” Bissette III** wed Victoria Michelle Sutton on July 19 at Mount Sylvan United Methodist Church, Durham. The wedding party included **John Bailey** ’08 and **Herbert “Trey” Hedrick III** ’08. He is head equipment manager for the men’s lacrosse team and the women’s soccer team at Duke University. **Sarah Catherine Chewing** ’07 ’11 wed **Justin Paul Freeman** ’11 on Oct. 18 at the Chewing residence in Rockingham. The wedding party included **Katie Weaver Macomber**. At ECU, she was president of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. She is business manager of the ECU School of Dental Medicine’s Community Service Learning Center in

Ahoskie, and he is business manager of Chowan University, Murfreesboro. Dr. **Melva E. Pinn-Bingham**, radiation oncologist, joined the Holzer Center for Cancer Care, Gallipolis, Ohio. She was employed at Riverside Radiation Oncology Specialists in Newport News, Va. **Dustin Shivar** ’07 ’11, a licensed clinical social worker, joined Eastern Psychiatric & Behavioral Specialists, Greenville. **Anthony Richard Zoppo** wed Kathleen Michelle Goff on Aug. 16 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Raleigh.

2006

Allen Amos II is director of music for New Hope Presbyterian Church, Chapel Hill. He is also band director at Lucas Middle School, Durham. **Mark Stephen Hardee** wed Sarah Katherine Grater on Aug. 23 at the Church of Holy Cross, Valle Crucis. The wedding party included **Hunter Buck** ’07, **Eric Gilmore** ’07, **Matt Hardee** and **Jeremy Tucker**

2003

Marian Bridget Lawhorn Grady, assistant principal at Sand Ridge Elementary School in Hubert, is the 2014-15 N.C. Outstanding Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year. **Jeffrey Palis** was appointed the first director of study abroad at Lamar

University, Beaumont, Texas. He was associate director of international studies at Georgia Southern University. **Erica Danielle Rosene** wed Andrew John Barga on June 1 at The Dominion Club, Glen Allen, Va. She is owner/operator of The Phoenix Dance Studio of Charlottesville, Va. **Justin Tart**, a financial adviser with Culpepper Family Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, Greenville, earned the certification of certified financial planner profession.

2002

Katherine Wiggs was the December Artist of the Month at the New Bern-Craven County Public Library, where her photography and paintings were exhibited.

2001

Jeffrey Sherbinsky and his wife, Ashley, had their third son in 2014. **Ben Sinnett** ’01 ’03, an eighth-grade science and STEMology teacher, is Cowpens Middle School 2014-2015 Teacher



Helene Reilly ’02 of Winterville received the 2014 Eunice M. Smith Scholarship from the N.C. Nurses Association. She works for

ECU as a family nurse practitioner in the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences. In 2011, she was named the best in her field at the Brody School of Medicine and at its medical group practice, ECU Physicians. She is using the scholarship to pursue a doctorate in nursing practice from the ECU College of Nursing.



Michael Smith ’86 ’91, executive director of the Statesville Regional Development Commission, was elected president of

the N.C. Economic Developers Association for 2014-2015. He had served as NCEDA vice president. Site Selection magazine, an industry bible, named Statesville Regional Development Commission one of the best such groups in the nation in 2008 and 2011. Before joining Statesville Regional Development in 2006, Smith worked for seven years at the N.C. Department of Commerce in the Business and Industry Division. NCEDA is the leading statewide association for professional economic developers and their allies. He is married to **Phyllis Elaine Floyd Smith** ’89.



Joe Finley ’04 ’06, a dysphagia specialist at the O’Berry Center in Goldsboro, was one of 38 state employees

Awards for Excellence. He was one of three N.C. Department of Health and Human Services workers who were cited for providing excellent customer service. Finley works with O’Berry Center residents with extreme intellectual challenges to find ways for them to continue to enjoy eating food and to delay the need for liquifying food for their diets. He developed and taught therapeutic exercises to help residents maintain the ability to chew and swallow. The Governor’s Award for Excellence is the highest award for service given to state employees.



William H. Rowland ’53 of Kinston, who led efforts to recover and preserve the CSS Neuse, a Confederate ironclad gunboat, received the N.C. Literary and Historical Association’s

Christopher Crittenden Memorial Award for 2014. The award, named after the man who was director of the State Department of Archives and History for more than 30 years, annually recognizes an individual who makes lasting contributions to the study of state history. Beginning in the 1960s, Rowland led community efforts to recover the CSS Neuse from the Neuse River. The vessel’s remains now are the centerpiece of the CSS Neuse Civil War Interpretive Center in Kinston.



Will Crocker ’58 retired after serving as Johnston County clerk of court for more than 36 years. Crocker was first elected in 1977 and re-elected every four years since then. Counting the 10 years he served as assistant clerk before being elected chief clerk, Crocker served in the office for about 46 years.



Jay Clark

Robbie Delaney '06 of Charlotte doesn't think it's odd that a construction management major has found success running a distillery. "I did minor in business, which has been a huge advantage," he said. "But construction management does lend itself to business."

Three years ago, Delaney quit his job managing a construction project in Texas after he read an article in an airline magazine. The story predicted that—following an explosion in the number of wineries and craft beer breweries in North Carolina—the next big thing would be small distilleries producing spirits with a distinctive Tar Heel taste.

Today his Muddy River rum is sold in most liquor stores in North Carolina. He's also produced four batches of a premium version of the rum, called Queen Charlotte's Reserve, which has sold out every time.

"What I was taught to do (at ECU) was to assess a problem and then devise a means for solving it and how to identify all the small steps in between start and finish," Delaney said. "As for the work to get all the required local, state and federal permits, well, I was used to doing detailed paperwork for the government when I was working on the low-income housing project I did (in Texas)."

He and his wife, Caroline, an N.C. State graduate with a degree in accounting, are Muddy River's only employees, but he says that may change soon if business remains strong. Lately he's been giving a lot of tours of his distillery, which occupies an old textile mill on the banks of the muddy Yadkin River in Belmont.

"I spend every bit of 90 hours a week with the business," he said. "There's almost never a day when I don't come down to the distillery and do something."

1991
Kim Marks is CEO for Southampton Memorial Hospital, Franklin, Va. She was interim CEO, assistant CEO and director of business development.

1990
Andrew Schmidt '90 '97 of Greenville was named executive director of the Greenville-Pitt County Convention & Visitors Bureau. He had served as interim director and has worked for the bureau for 19 years. Schmidt also is an adjunct faculty member in the College of Human Ecology's School of Hospitality Leadership. Schmidt serves on the board of the N.C. Sports Association.

1989
Kenneth A. Hill is a project

director in Stantec's program- and project-management practice in Charleston, S.C. He was COO for the Charleston Clinic and director of support services for Trident Health.



Alice Zincone '89 '98 is the N.C. Art Education Association Special Needs Art Educator of the Year. She teaches at the Governor Morehead School, the state school for the blind.

1988
Vann Clark received the Governor's Award for Volunteer Service in 2014. For 17 years, he and his partner, Bob Rigsby, planned, organized and executed the Rigsby/Clark Golf Tournament to benefit the Moore Buddies Mentoring

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Twenty-eight educators and education advocates will be inducted into the Educators Hall of Fame in October. They join more than 400 outstanding educators who have been inducted since the program began in 1999. Each inductee was sponsored and a monetary gift of \$1,000 or more was contributed to the Educators Hall of Fame Scholarship endowment on his or her behalf. Annual interest from the endowment is used to fund merit-based scholarships for College of Education students. To date, the program has raised more than \$512,000 for scholarships. The goal is for the endowment to reach \$1 million.

This year's inductees are **Alan R. Bailey** '84 '93 of Ayden; **Nancy Glaser Bray** '89 of Grifton; **Suzanne Brooks** '78 of Keswick, Virginia; **Herbert R. Carlton** '52 '54 of Greenville; **Anne Barker Faulkenberry** '73 '76 of Trent Woods; **Diane L. Frost** of Asheboro; **Barbara Glatthorn** of Washington; **Kathryn Carroll Gower** '80 of Dunn; **Bruce Elliot Gray** '71 '78 '82 '85 of Ayden; **James Henry Jones** formerly of Garysburg; **Jena Gurganus Kerns** '70 '78 of Greenville; **Jerry E. McGee** '65 of Wingate; **Debbie Metcalf** of Greenville; **Cynthia Parker Miller** '98 '99 of Newport; **Dorothy Hiott Muller** of Greenville; **Jane Reel** '70 '78 of Greenville; **Deborah Wiggins Seehorn** of Raleigh; **DeAnne Smith** '86 '89 of Greenville; **Gail Dillahunt Smith** of Greenville; **James Russell Smith Jr.** '84 '86 of Morrisville; **Patricia Ann Hedspeth Smith** '60 of Conway; **Mary Ann Southern** '74 '76 of New Bern; **Betty S. Speir** '63 of Greenville; **Becky Howard Taylor** '76 '80 of Bath; **Frank Pleasant Teague Jr.** formerly of Kingston; and **Sherryl Tipton** '78 of Greenville. Previously inducted honorees receiving additional stars this year are **Gwen P. Jeffreys** '43 of Greensboro and **Gene Daniel Lanier** '55 of Atlantic Beach.



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Tickets start as low as \$165. Renewal deadline is April 1.

2015 HOME FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



9.5.15
Paint it Purple



9.26.15
Paint it Gold



10.17.15
Homecoming



10.22.15
Paint it Black



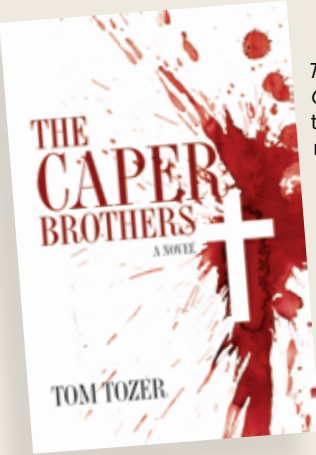
11.7.15
Military Appreciation



11.28.15
Senior Day



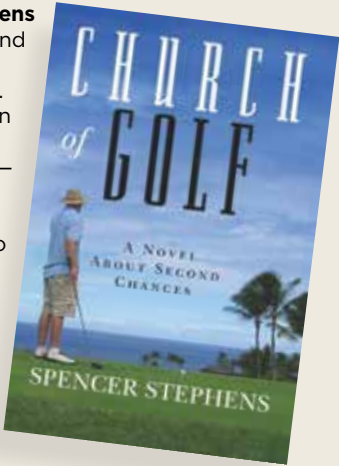
BOOKS BY ALUMNI



The Caper Brothers
CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform
220 pages
Amazon, \$11.66

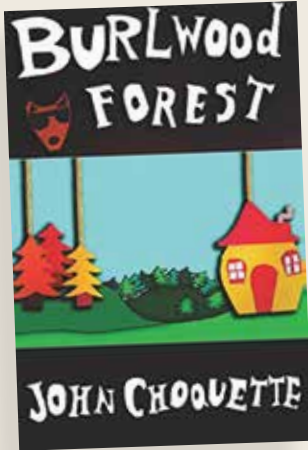
Author, attorney and devoted golfer **Spencer Stephens** '82 wrote an enlightening novel about golf and second chances. *Church of Golf* follows the story of Donald Gibson, a man who reached his peak too early in life. By his 40s, he's drunk, overweight and in debt. When the aunt who raised him dies, she leaves him her entire fortune and house on a small Hawaiian island—under one condition: He has to live on the island for three years. Donald finds himself living in a religious community of golfers who teach him that learning to play golf is learning to live humbly. Stephens earned an English degree at ECU and a law degree at the Catholic University of America. Before law school, Stephens worked as a daily newspaper reporter for nearly 10 years.

The Church of Golf
Saint Pete Press
370 pages
Paperback, \$14.25
Kindle, \$4.25



John Choquette '11 originally thought he would be entering the music business. Then he was inspired to write a young adult trilogy called *Burlwood Forest*. The series is about Michael Pumpernickel, a fanny-pack-carrying 11-year-old who is trying to figure out life. A mysterious letter forces Michael to grow up quickly as he travels through the magical Burlwood Forest. Filled with fantasy, comedy and adventure, the book that can be enjoyed by children and adults who are children at heart. Before receiving his master's degree in health and human performance at ECU, Choquette studied journalism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Choquette, who is also a writer for an emerging music website and sports blog, published *Burlwood Forest* through his own lifestyle design and publishing company, Pumpernickel Art. His work can be found in multiple online and print publications.

Burlwood Forest
Pumpernickel Art
330 pages
Paperback, \$12.00



program. He is vice president of McNeill Oil and Propane and is married to **Kimberly Kelly Clark** '90. Two daughters, **Ashtyn** and **Catherine**, are freshmen at ECU. **Joe Norris** is vice president of information services at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Wilmington.

1987

Louise Peele, a pediatric nurse practitioner, joined Eastern Psychiatric & Behavioral Specialists, Greenville.

1986

Mark Cockrell '86 '87 '99 '11, principal of Southern Nash High School, is the 2014-15 Nash-Rocky Mount Public Schools Principal of the Year.

1985

Michael Benton was promoted to captain in the Durham Police Department and assigned as a district commander. **Stevie L. Cherry** opened Signet Counseling, a professional counseling practice in Greenville. **Libbe Williams Sasser** was elected president of N.C. Association of Professionals in Infection Control. She will serve as president-elect for 2015 and as state chapter president in 2016. She is an infection control practitioner at Vidant Edgecombe Hospital. **Kathee Staton** '85 '88 was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel, the highest honor awarded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. She retired from the U.S. Department of Defense in 2002.

1980

Martha Bonds is a loan officer at Citizens Financial Group, Charleston, S.C. She was a loan officer at SunTrust Mortgage. **Will Hinton**, professor of visual art at Louisburg College, is the Cecil W. Robbins Public Service Award honoree for 2014. **Harry Smith**, Onslow County tax administrator, is the 2014 Outstanding County Assessor for North Carolina and was named president of the N.C. Association of Assessing Officers.

1979



Mark A. Holmes was named president and CEO of Cornerstone Bank, Wilson.



The N.C. Museum of Art hosted a video installation of three works by New York artist **Jason Mitcham** '02, including the *Head Full of Doubt/Road Full of Promise* piece he produced

with **Scott Avett** '99 of the Avett Brothers. The video features 2,600 versions of one painting set to the song of the same name from the band's 2009 hit album, *I and Love and You*.

1977

Mark Garner was appointed secretary of the ECU Board of Visitors. He is vice president of Rivers and Associates Inc., Greenville. **Norm Osborn** is a commercial banking officer with First South Bank, Wilson.

1976

William H. "Bill" Shreve was named to the Wilson Community College Foundation and the N.C. Community Foundation local board.

1975

J. Henry Oehmann III is a principal in Matthews, Young & Associates' executive compensation practice. He was with Grant Thornton LLP's Raleigh office. **Jac Wilder VerSteeg** is managing editor of Context Florida, an online statewide opinion network. He was a columnist for the *Sun Sentinel* and editorial writer and editor for *The Palm Beach Post*. **Melissa Stanfield Walker** exhibited her work at Harrison's restaurant and art gallery, Burlington. She is a national

board-certified art educator with 25 years of experience.

1974

Harry Williams Stubbs IV '74 '77 retired after 31 years in federal government service, most with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. Returning to Greenville, he chairs the Greenville Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission and also the Friends of Greenville Greenways. He was re-elected to the ECU Alumni Association board of directors.

1972

George S. Jackson is professor at Virginia Wesleyan College, Norfolk, Va. He was an associate professor in the College of Business & Economics at Longwood University.

1971

Dwight J. Flanagan was appointed to the board of trustees for Brunswick Community College, Supply. **Henry W. Gorham** is a senior partner at Teague Campbell Dennis and Gorham and is listed in Best Lawyers in America in Commercial Litigation for 2015.

1969

Jerry Hardesty was elected register of deeds for Carteret County in November.

1967

James R. Daniels Jr. retired after 45 years as an accountant. A Vietnam War veteran, he played baseball at ECC.

1965



Jerry McGee said he will retire as president of Wingate University in May after 23 years in the post. Under his leadership, Wingate achieved university status, nearly tripled its enrollment to more than 3,000, and started a pharmacy school and a physician assistant program. He was chosen as an ECU Distinguished Alumnus in 2008.

Robert E. "Bob" Hill was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine at the 75th Anniversary of WGBR radio at the Paramount Theater in Goldsboro in 2014. The recognition included 56 years of interviews and 38 years of newcomers briefings at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base.

1964

Marion Sykes and wife, Gwen, of Havelock celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a



Brenton O'Hara and Kate McKinney

Brenton O'Hara '13 is completing a master's degree in opera theater at the University of South Carolina. He and partner Kate McKinney received \$20,000 for winning the Maxient Social Impact prize as part of USC's Proving Grounds entrepreneurial competition. They will use the money to support their non-profit organization, Project Opera Camp, which seeks to promote life skills among underserved children through the arts. The summer camps and after-school programs will be tuition-free. A pilot program will launch in Charleston, South Carolina, in June.

seven-day cruise to the western Caribbean. He retired from ECU.

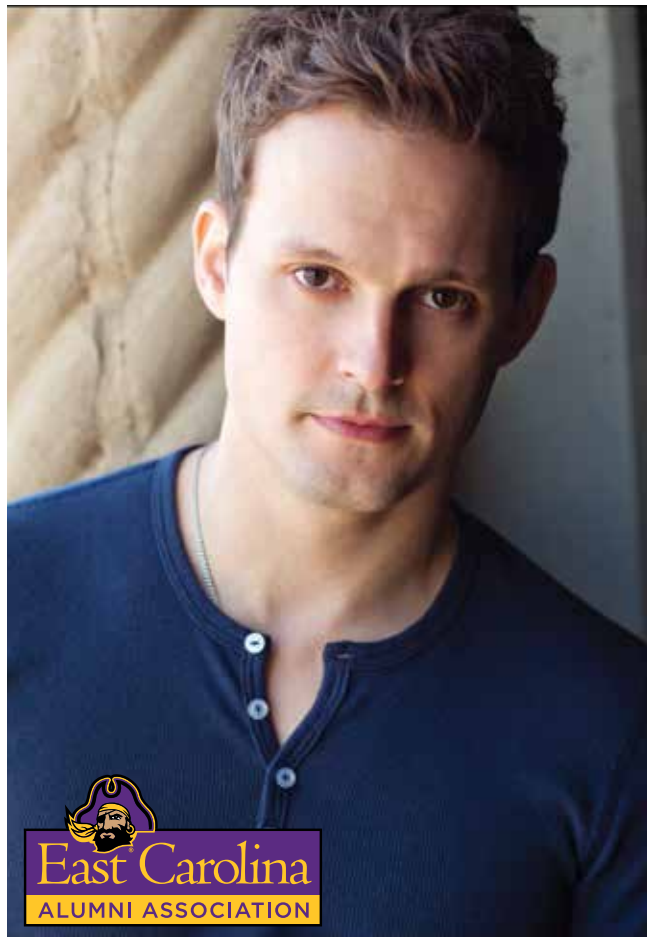
1963



Addie Allegood of Ayden was honored at a 100th birthday celebration Nov. 8 at Ayden Christian Church. The reception was hosted by her children, Linwood Allegood of Ayden and Donna LaMotte and husband, Paul, of Greenville. More than 75 people attended the reception. She was delighted in seeing some of her past colleagues, who were teachers at Contentnea Elementary School.

1956

Robert E. "Bob" Hill was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine at the 75th Anniversary of WGBR radio at the Paramount Theater in Goldsboro in 2014. The recognition included 56 years of interviews and 38 years of newcomers briefings at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base.



“I am a member of the Alumni Association because I want everyone to know what East Carolina means to me and how much pride and love I have for ECU. I want to be a part of its continued success. Both of my sisters graduated from ECU, so it is our home, a legacy in our family. I continue to be a member because I hope that one day when I have kids, they too will want to go there, as they will surely grow up attending football games with me, you can count on that!

Being a member means the world to me, and is the one way that I can give back and stay connected to the place that gave me the best years of my life. Go Pirates!”

Jeremy Woodard '01
Broadway actor
2015 Outstanding Alumni Award recipient

JOIN TODAY! CALL 800-ECU-GRAD
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The East Carolina Alumni Association invites you to join us at these upcoming events.

MAY 30 Bring the Whole Crew
Williamsburg Winery Tour
Williamsburg, VA

JUNE 16 Networking Reception
Greensboro, NC

JUNE 17 Networking Lunch
Winston-Salem, NC

JUNE 19 Networking Lunch
Wilmington, NC

JUNE 20 Bring the Whole Crew
Jungle Rapids
Wilmington, NC

JULY 18 Bring the Whole Crew
U.S. National Whitewater Ctr.
Charlotte, NC

AUG 15 Bring the Whole Crew
Scavenger Hunt
Charleston, SC

SEPT 12 Away Game Tailgate at Florida
Gainesville, FL
PirateAlumni.com/UF2015

SEPT 19 Away Game Tailgate at Navy
Annapolis, MD
PirateAlumni.com/Navy2015

SEPT 25 ECU Alumni Scholarship
Classic golf tournament
PirateAlumni.com/Golf

OCT 3 Away Game Tailgate at SMU
Dallas, TX
PirateAlumni.com/SMU2015



Visit PirateAlumni.com/UpcomingEvents for details on these and other events including Pirate Sendoffs for incoming students.

In Memoriam

1920s

Helen McDaniel Joyner '29 of Woodland died Oct. 22 at 100. She was an elementary school teacher in Johnston and Northampton counties and later worked with her husband in the family business, Joyner Trucking Co.

1930s



Margaret Fisher Lupton '33 of Columbus, Ohio, and formerly of Swan Quarter, N.C., died Dec. 13 at 101. She owned Margaret Lupton Florist in Swan Quarter for many years and was a teacher and librarian. She bears the statistical oddity of being born 11-12-13 and dying on 12-13-14. **Nell W. Webb** '39 of Greenville died Nov. 27 at 96. Active in community and regional organizations, she was a founding member of Women for Women in Greenville and served on the board of trustees and as president for three years of the Greenville Museum of Art. A new education building at the museum was named in her honor.

1940s

Madeline Bedsaul Brooks '47 of Winston-Salem died Dec. 13 at 90. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from ECTC and was a violinist in the college symphony. Blinded at a young age, she helped start the Visual Impaired Program for the Winston-Salem and Forsyth County Public Schools, where she worked 20 years.



Estelle Davis Butler '43 of Richmond Hill, Ga., died Aug. 27 at 93. She was an educator for more than 30 years. At ECTC, she was president of the Women's Student Government Association. She was honored at a ceremony at ECU in 2005 and interviewed for the oral history library discussing college during WWII. **Jean Reid Farmer** '44 of Elizabeth City died Aug. 19 at 90. **Dorothy Louise Pearsall Horne**

'44 of Greenville died Dec. 16, 2014. She was vice president of her senior class and on the staff of *Pieces of Eight* and *Teco Echo*. She taught school in Wilmington and Ayden before marrying Charles O'H. Horne Jr. and making Greenville her home. She was the mother of Lou McNamee '96, the retired assistant to Chancellor Steve Ballard. **Mildred Copeland Jenkins** '44 of Raleigh, formerly of Potecasi, died Nov. 9 at 90. She taught at Woodland-Olney School, Woodland, and later was home economics extension agent in Northampton County.



John L. "Jack" Johnson '46 '49 of Tarboro died June 14 at age 93. He retired as principal of Fairmont High School in 1980 after a 33-year career in school administration in eastern North Carolina. At ECTC, he was on the staff of the student newspaper and the yearbook. He is survived by Rose Graham Johnson '48, whom he married on her ECTC graduation day.



Maude Sawyer Laird '41 of Elizabeth died Oct. 17 at 95. She taught school in Pender County and coached the boys basketball team. **Rebecca Moya Gray** '43 of Goldsboro died Aug. 19 at 91. She taught for 36 years in the then-Goldsboro City Schools. **Jesse Louie McDaniel** '49 '50 of Kinston died Sept. 8 at 91. A Navy veteran of WWII and the Korean War, he was an educator for 40 years, retiring as president of Lenoir Community College.



Mary Horne Odom '42 of Raleigh died Nov. 22 at 93. A former teacher, she joined the N.C. House in 1971 for one term before being elected to the state Senate in 1975. She was the first woman to serve in both houses of N.C. General Assembly. **Janie Creel Phillips** '41 '57 of Greensboro died Dec. 9. She taught elementary school for 35 years and was a substitute teacher

with Guilford County Public School System for another 15.

1950s



Cmdr. Kenneth Royal Bordeaux '56 '69 '73 of Cary died Nov. 9. After serving in the U.S. Navy, he worked for state government for 25 years, retiring from the O'Berry Center, Goldsboro, in 1994. Dr. **Thomas Mack Cherry** '57 of Nags Head died Aug. 27, 2013. **Patricia Anne Dickerson Hill** '58 of Raleigh died Nov. 29. In 2002 she retired from the N.C. Department of Community Colleges. **Wilma Deane Mallernee Evans** '54 of Greensboro died Nov. 19. She taught in the Alamance County School System for many years. **Thomas Eugene Ruffin Jr.** '57 '58 of Ahoskie died Nov. 15. For 30 years, he was a professor in the business department of Chowan College. He served in the Virginia and the N.C. National Guard.



Warren Stanley "Sonny" Russell Jr. '57 died Oct. 6. An Army Korean War veteran, he taught at New Bern High School while coaching basketball, baseball and football, leading the baseball team to a State Championship in 1966. As an ECC basketball player, he earned All-Conference, All-State and All-Tournament titles and is still ranked third in all-time scoring at ECU. A charter member of the ECU Hall of Fame, his jersey, No. 14, is the only men's basketball number that has ever been retired. **Ann Rhem Schwarzmann** '57 '58 of Greenville died Oct. 16. She taught first and second grades and later established the learning disabilities program at Southwood and Pink Hill schools in Lenoir County. A member of ECU's Women's Roundtable and lifetime member of the Alumni Association, she was inducted into ECU's Educators Hall of Fame and the ECU chapter of Phi Kappa Phi. **Zelda Stansbury Findlay Snow** '56 of Statesville died Aug. 30. She taught elementary school for several years. **Henry Meacham Stanley Sr.** '58 of Casselberry, Fla., died Sept. 16. A Navy veteran, he retired as a teacher

in the Orange County (Fla.) Public Schools and was an entrepreneur who started several businesses.



Samuel Cameron Stell Sr. '50 '51 of Whiteville died Sept. 14. He retired as superintendent of Whiteville City Schools. Later he was mayor of Emerald Isle and chair of the Carteret County Commissioners. He lettered in football and baseball at ECTC and played professional baseball for the St. Louis Browns farm teams. **Elaine Welch Wilbourne-Sawyer** '56 of Baltimore, Md., died Nov. 19. She retired after 30 years of teaching from Baltimore County School System. Dr. **Charles Prince Youmans** '59 of Johns Island, S.C., and Banner Elk died Oct. 8. An Army veteran, he practiced orthodontics in Charleston and Walterboro, S.C., for 47 years.

1960s

Ellen Branch Barksdale '69 of Danville, Va., died Oct. 2. For more than 40 years, she was a grade-school and middle-school teacher. **Charles Richard Blackwelder** '64 of Mount Olive died Sept. 17. In 2005, he retired as owner of Blackwelder Insurance Agency. **John L. Booth Sr.** '60 of Raleigh died Aug. 9. A Navy Korean War veteran, he was the principal professional with the Coastal Plains Regional Commission, a federal-state cooperative effort to improve the economic health of the states along the Atlantic Seaboard. In 1986, he was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. Col. **Frank Lewis Brewer USMC (Ret.)** '68 of Greenville died Nov. 24. He flew helicopters and medevac missions in Vietnam, Beirut and Grenada. In 1994, he retired as a colonel after 28 years of service. **Kenneth Ray Buck Sr.** '66 of New Bern died Sept. 10. He retired from the N.C. Department of Revenue. **Hoy Jefferson "Jeff" Cobb** '61 '66 of Rocky Mount died Nov. 8. A teacher and assistant principal at Rocky Mount Senior High School, he later established the Area L AHEC Center in Rocky Mount. He also worked in the family-owned Cobb's Motel & Restaurant. He served on Nash County Board of Education, the county commission and on the board of Nash General Hospital. **Brenda Sutton Davis** '63 '69 of

Raleigh died Oct. 20. For 28 years she was an early childhood teacher, retiring from the Wake County Public School System. **Tandy Walker Fitts III** '69 of North Myrtle Beach, S.C., died Nov. 14. **John Wayne Griffin Sr.** '62 of Louisburg died Oct. 28. He operated Strickland Electric Co. in Louisburg. **Rannie Pendergrass Hilton** '66 of Durham died Oct. 7. She retired from Grapevine Print & Design, which she owned with her husband. **Rosemary Hooks** '66 of Burlington died Oct. 18. She retired after a 30-year career with the N.C. Department of Transportation. **Durrell V. Mills** '60 of Suffolk, Va., died Oct. 23. He was a CPA. Active in many civic organizations, he was proclaimed First Citizen of Suffolk in 1999. **Charles Raye Munn** '61 of Rockingham died Nov. 28. He operated Munn's Coal and Oil and worked for his father for many years. **Gordon Everette "Grandpoo" Peoples** '60 of Chester, Va., died Dec. 3.

Elizabeth "Lib" Glover Phillips '63 of Clemmons died Nov. 6. She taught marketing for more than 30 years, retiring from East Forsyth High School. At ECU she was chair of the Women's Judiciary Committee, named to Who's Who and was a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority. **Michael W. Porter** '68 of Virginia Beach, Va., died Oct. 4. A lifelong educator, he retired after serving as assistant principal at Cox High School, Green Run High School and Kellam High School in Virginia Beach. **Nathan Jack Powell Jr.** '67 of Madison died Oct. 1. An Army veteran, he worked in textiles for more than 33 years. **Henry Alexander Ross Jr.** '68 '69 of Henderson died Oct. 26. For 34 years, he was music director and organist at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Innocents, Henderson. **Sue Laroque Hardy Smith** '64 of Kinston died Nov. 29. For 31 years she was an educator at Contentnea Elementary School. **JoAnn Strickland** '60 of Raleigh died Aug. 22. She taught math at Falls Church, Annandale and Stuart High Schools in Northern Virginia. **Francis West "FW" Stanley Jr.** '64 of Shelby died Sept. 5. For more than 50 years, he was a public school teacher. He was a fifth-generation and last member of his family to own Stanley Funeral Home of Goldsboro. Capt. **Howard Conrad Sumrell** '62 of Denton, Texas, died Oct. 5. He was a retired Air Force officer. Lt. Col. (ret.) **Michael Parks Sykes** '64 of Sandwich, Mass., died Nov. 21. In



1984 he retired after 20 years service in the U.S. Air Force. He then taught math at Riverview School, East Sandwich. **Alfred Joseph "Skip" Wamsley** '69 of Spokane, Wash., died Aug. 12. He was a retired photographer. At ECC, his photos appeared in *The Rebel* and other student publications.

1970s

and retired from UDL Laboratories. He was a member of the Theta Chi fraternity at ECU. **Patricia Louise Ratcliff** '70 of Conover died Nov. 10. For 33 years she was an Army community service specialist at domestic and overseas bases. **Michael William Scronce** '75 of Camden, S.C., died Aug. 26. He was a member service representative of Fairfield Electric Co-op. Fr. **Nicolaos Peter Spirakis** '77 of North Myrtle Beach, S.C., died Oct. 15. He served parishes in Asheville, Wilmington and Myrtle Beach, S.C., where he served from 1976-1992. **Carolyn Hardison Summerlin** '73 of Williamston died Aug. 31. She worked with the Braxton Worsley Insurance Agency, Tarboro; the Boyd Agency, Williamston, and the Martin County Farm Bureau. **Joseph Peyton Tunstall Jr.** '73 '84 of Washington died Sept. 9. He retired from Beaufort County Schools. He served on the Washington City Council for six years. **Michael Lipscomb Whitfield** '77 of Chester, Va., died Nov. 27. A pianist, he taught high school band in Shenandoah County, Va., played professionally and served as organist and choir director for numerous churches over 40 years. **Stephen Boddie Wiggins** '73 of Chesapeake, Va., died Sept. 15. He worked with Liberty Mutual and Prudential insurance companies for more than 35 years. At ECU, he was a member of Pi Lambda Phi. **Larry A. Williams Sr.** '73 '78 of Midlothian, Va., formerly of Virginia Beach, died Nov. 13. A pianist and organist he was minister of music at several churches for 40-plus years.

1990s

Amy Leigh Asbell '94 of Elizabeth City died Sept. 7. She was the media coordinator at John A. Holmes High School, Edenton. **Neil MacPherson Brown** '99 of King died Aug. 24. He was a state health and safety inspector. **Richard Michael "Mike" Cotton** '94 of Durham died Oct. 1. He formerly owned and operated Hog Heaven Barbeque and most recently Pizza Inn. Dr. **Johnson P. "J.P." Draughon Jr.** '91 '96 of Washington died Nov. 22. **Matthew "Matt" Bishoff Howard** '92 of Charlotte died Sept. 5. He worked in the music industry at Capricorn Records. He was also a technical consultant for major carriers. At ECU, he was in the Marching Pirates band. **Michael Lane Leggett** '90 of Williamston died Oct. 18. He was a former building inspector with the city of Greenville. He played football for ECU from 1986 until 1991. **Beth Anne "Brooke" McCray** '92 of Greenville died Nov. 26. She owned Brooke's Street Creations.

2000s

Robert Patrick "Bob" Alexander '87 '95 of Rocky Mount died Nov. 10. He was an educational specialist for English language arts with the Nash-Rocky Mount Public Schools. Earlier he taught English and coached at J.H. Rose High School. He played football at ECU. **Rosalie Kenner Baker** '89 of Greensboro died Sept. 23. She was married to Simon Baker, who retired from ECU's Department of Geography and Planning. Ret. Navy Lt. Cmdr. **John R. Buffington** '88 of Minersville, Pa., died Oct. 18. A 25-year Navy veteran, he served as a hospital corpsman, attaining the rank of master chief before accepting a commission in the Navy Medical Service Corps. **James Broadus Egerton** '82 '95 of Greenville died Sept. 26. From 1995 to 2002, he taught biology at Tarboro High School and coached boys and girls tennis. In 2003 he began teaching biology at Wilson Community College, where he was Teacher of the Year for 2013-2014. **George W. Fuller Sr.** '89 of



Y. Brian Parker '03 of Durham died Sept. 30. He was a lieutenant commander, U.S. Public Health Service, serving as vice president of the N.C. Commissioned

Officers Association and active member of the Black Commissioned Officers Association Group, Junior Officer Advisory Group. At ECU, he was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Upsilon Zeta Chapter, where he was Undergraduate of the Year and Outstanding Scholar Award recipient.

FACULTY



Jimmie Grimsley '66 '67 of Greenville died Jan. 28. He was 70. He began a long ECU career coaching tennis and soccer. He taught for 39 years in the Department of Health and Human Performance and served as director of graduate studies, director of clinical experiences, and coordinator of physical education programs. He also served as the scoreboard operator at ECU football and basketball games for three decades. He was a founder and former

president of the Pitt-Greenville Hot Stove Baseball League.



Robert L. Holt of Fuquay-Varina died Oct. 8 at 94. He came to ECTC in 1950 as director of religious activities, a position he held for four years. He left campus and returned in 1958 as registrar and director of admissions. He also served as vice chancellor of administration and planning and later became a member of the philosophy department, retiring in 1984.



Stuart Aronson of Grimesland died Oct. 31. A teacher, performer, playwright and producer, he taught public speaking at ECU from 1972 to 1990 and gave private voice and acting lessons. For 40 years, he directed Greenville's "Sunday in the Park" concert series

at the Town Common.

William F. Troutman Jr. of Greenville died Sept. 4 at 96. A U.S. Army WW II veteran, he came to ECU in 1965 as a political science professor. He chaired the Department of Political Science from 1966-79. He also served in 1964 as director of the Institute on Democracy and Totalitarianism at Appalachian State University and from 1966-67 at ECU. In 1988, he retired and in 2003 was inducted into ECU's College of Education Educators Hall of Fame.

Elisabeth Jean Hudson Heininger of Corning, New York, died Sept. 29. She was an assistant professor in recreation studies at ECU.

Dwight Fay Rettie of Morehead City died Sept. 28. He taught political science at ECU from 1999 to 2001.

STAFF

Roy Alton Briley of Stokes died Nov. 17. He retired from ECU.

Ann Hall Cowan of Winterville died Sept. 21. She worked in ECU's

accounts payable for 23 years.

Vernicia Haddock of Greenville died Sept. 27. In 1993, she retired from ECU's registrar's office after 30 years of service.

Lina Jennifer Coltrain Harris of Williamston died Oct. 12. She worked at the Brody School of Medicine.

Crawford Hawkins of Greenville died Sept. 21. She worked in ECU's student bookstore for a number of years.

Cheryl Lynn Jordan Marshbanks of Boone died Aug. 29. She worked at Joyner Library.

Joyce Price Stroud of Greenville died Dec. 8. For 18 years she worked with the ECU football program.

FRIENDS

Ada Flowers Briley Kinsaul of Greenville died Nov. 14 at 95. A professional seamstress, she made the spirit flags for ECU and the first ECU flag flown over Ficklen Stadium.

A tax advantageous way to pass assets to your children and support ECU during your lifetime

There is a great charitable vehicle available for parents with a philanthropic interest who want to support a charity and pass assets to their children while reducing/eliminating their estate taxation. The name of this planned giving instrument is a **charitable lead trust**, and it enables parents to support ECU while they are alive for a set number of years (10 or more) and then distribute assets to their children, greatly reducing or eliminating estate tax on that asset transfer. Based on the almost historic low IRS Discount Rate/interest rates now is the perfect time to maximize your asset transfer to your children. Illustrated below is how this wonderful gift vehicle works.

George is 55 years old and married with three children. He has a portfolio worth \$800,000 and wants to support East Carolina University today. Following his advisor's recommendation, George creates an 18-year charitable lead annuity trust with his portfolio.

How the Trust Is Set Up

Because George wanted to witness the results of his generosity, he arranged the trust so that it provided payments to ECU Foundation Inc. during his lifetime instead of through his estate. George's trust pays \$48,000 (6 percent of the initial fair market value) to ECU Foundation Inc. each year for 18 years, which will total \$864,000. After that, the balance in the trust goes to his children.

Major Tax Benefits

His gift tax deduction is \$638,384 against the \$800,000 of assets. Therefore, only the difference (\$161,616) is subject to gift tax, which is offset against his \$5.43 million lifetime gift tax exclusion. After that, the remaining trust assets and all of their growth will pass to his family at zero additional cost in gift and estate taxes.

Additional Advantages

George's children will receive a sizable inheritance, albeit not for 18 years. After 18 years in the trust, the portfolio should be worth close to \$800,000 if the underlying trust assets experience just average market performance (in this case, 6 percent growth). This could save the family unnecessary estate taxes by moving \$800,000 from his estate. It also will still provide for George's philanthropic interests in a very tax-efficient manner.

For more information about charitable lead trusts or any type of planned gifts, please contact Greg Abeyounis, Associate Vice Chancellor for Development at 252-328-9573 or e-mail at abeyounisg@ecu.edu.



East Carolina's first political protest

Leo Jenkins' phone rang about 11 p.m. on Nov. 7, 1961, and the Greenville police officer on the line urged the East Carolina College president to get downtown fast. The officer said about 1,500 angry students were staging a noisy protest near Five Points, and police feared matters were getting out of hand.

The students were outraged that a \$61.7 million statewide bond issue for higher education and other state needs—for which they had worked so hard over the past three months—had just been defeated at the polls.

Jenkins rushed downtown and pushed his way through the crowd of chanting students. He grabbed a bullhorn, climbed atop a police car and appealed for calm.

"We are among friends here!" Jenkins yelled. "I share your disappointment," he repeated over and over. Then he implored the students

to follow him back to campus, where he said they would talk things over.

The students hesitated, then fell in line behind him as he walked up Fifth Street.

From the steps of Old Austin, Jenkins applauded the students' courage at fighting for their cause. "We have just lost a battle but not the war," he told them. In reply, they chanted, "We will rise again," according to a story in the Greenville *Daily Reflector* that described the raucous evening.

As Jenkins spoke, the cheers of hundreds of women students echoed across the mall from the women's residence halls nearby. It was after curfew, so they were prohibited from leaving their dorms. Watching through the lobby windows, they chanted, "We want out, we want the bonds."

If they had passed, the bonds would have

provided East Carolina about \$3.4 million for a new classroom building to replace Old Austin (which had been condemned but was still in use), two new residence halls (students were packed three to a room in several dorms), a major addition to the library and other improvements.

"This election was a tremendous disappointment to the students (because) they had worked untiringly to convince the citizens of the genuine need for the facilities," Jenkins told the *Daily Reflector* in explaining what had caused the protest.

Greenville police reported only one student was arrested during the protest. "The orderly manner in which (the protesters) conducted themselves is a compliment to them and reveals that their interest was genuine," Jenkins told the paper.

The bonds passed only in Pitt and nine other counties with college campuses.

Voter rejection of the bonds elsewhere was a major setback for Gov. Terry Sanford and was seen as a backlash against his move earlier that year to extend the sales tax to food to raise money for schools.

In the months before the election, students at East Carolina and other campuses created a pro-bonds group called the Student Committee for a Better North Carolina. The committee, advised by Jenkins, organized rallies and extensive letter-writing campaigns.

ECC's share of the proposed bond proceeds also included \$50,000 toward construction of a new football stadium. The SGA had contributed \$10,000 to jumpstart the fundraising, and a local group had raised \$235,000 to build what would become Ficklen Stadium.

But the defeat of the bonds left a big hole in the stadium budget. In a demonstration of Greenville's support for East Carolina and its budding sports program, the local group raised another \$50,000 in two days.

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Mary Catherine Cox, a senior from Southern Pines who's majoring in violin performance, practices before Winter Celebration: The Seasons, part of the Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival.

Photo by Jay Clark

